Hafa Adai!

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Comments sought on impact of increased military activities. PAGE 3

Petition for green card fee waiver has 130 signatures so far. PAGE 5

PSS terminates night classes

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Due to funding shortage, the Public School System has terminated the Advance Development Institute, a program that offers special night classes to individuals and students who are finding it difficult to return to school on a regular basis.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan disclosed this to *Saipan Tribune* on Friday, saying the decision was a result of careful assessment and evaluation by the PSS management team.

"As of today, the ADI has been closed and all students that were in the program were recommended to continue to Northern Marianas College," she said.

NMC, using $300,000 in federal grants, offers basic adult education, of which one of the program components cater to dropout students who want to obtain their high school diplomas.

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Team and individual winners at the 2009 Mathcounts Chapter Competition pose for the media at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Saturday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The top 10 winners at the 2009 Mathcounts Chapter Competition held Saturday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

CCA rules Mathcounts chapter competition

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Calvary Christian Academy ruled the 2009 Mathcounts chapter competition, sweeping the top honors both in team and individual rankings.

The team bested 13 other participating middle schools from private and public institutions that entered nearly 150 stu-

See CCA on Page 4

AFTER 15 LONG YEARS:

2009 Mathcounts may be last for NMI

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The main organizer of the annual Mathcounts competition on Saturday disclosed that this may be the last year of the event in the Commonwealth.

Efrain Camacho, president and owner of EFC Engineers & Architects, said the decision is caused in large part by the grim economy, which has hit private businesses hard. The competition is mainly sponsored by the private sector.

See 2009 on Page 4

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POLL RESULTS

If the gubernatorial elections were held today, which of the five who have already expressed their intention to run will you vote for?

Benigno R. Fitial	39
Juan N. Babauta	37
Diego T. Benavente	28
Ramon S. Guerrero	7
Juan T. Guerrero	67
None	54

Sunday, February 08, 2009

132 DAYS without a government budget for FY 2009

INSIDE

New Wing
A new wing that will house various offices and classrooms for important programs in the Northern Marianas College was officially opened Friday on campus.
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Smile Project
Over 200 children troop to the Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic to avail of the clinic's "Give a Kid a Smile" free treatment project.
HEALTH...Page 18

Local

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial inspects a GTC classroom.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial discusses his plan to repair GTC classrooms with school principal Charlotte Camacho and GTC PTA members.

Fitial visits GTC campus, promises CIP funding

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial visited the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School Friday afternoon and met with GTC principal Charlotte Camacho and members of the school staff and Parents Teachers Association.

During the school visit, Fitial inspected the dilapidated San Roque classrooms, met with students, and viewed a video presentation that student prepared on the need for classroom repairs. Fitial also met Rita Sablan, the PSS education commissioner, about a plan to reprogram CIP funds for the repair of the school facility.

After viewing the school facility, Fitial said he agrees that the highest possible priority must be placed on the repair of the dilapidated school facilities and pledged to work with the PSS Board of Education to use CIP funds for this purpose.

"I will do everything within my authority as governor to address this urgent school need for teachers, parents, and students," said Fitial, who asked Commissioner Sablan to support his plan to reprogram some $500,000 of federal CIP funds previously allocated for the Public School System for GTC School repairs.

According to the governor, the money should come from a $1.2 million CIP allocation for PSS.

"These funds have yet to be drawn down and are still available," said Fitial. "I ask PSS to support the temporary reprogramming of these funds for GTC, with the understanding that the funds will be replenished soon thereafter."

Fitial welcomes PSS support to use federal CIP funds for GTC and pledges to secure more federal funds for PSS to meet the infrastructure needs of the various schools throughout the system. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The governor and PSS Education Commissioner Rita Sablan at a GTC classroom meeting following a student presentation.

2009 CNMI

Agricultural Summit

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February 11 8:30am - 4:30pm

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To register or for more information about this event feel free to contact
NMC's Community Development Institute
Ms. Carolyn P. Hosono
Tel. 234-5498 ext. 1010; carolynh@nmcnet.edu
or **Ms. Les Ogumoro-Uludong**
Tel; 234-5498 ext. 1019; logumoro@nmcnet.edu

This Event was Organized by the CNMI Farmers Support Group and sponsored by:

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NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE NMC 1981

ADAP

Public comments sought on impact of increased military activities in region

45-day comment period ends March 16

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

ON THE NET

http://www.marianasrangecomplexeis.com/otherresources.aspx

ADDRESS COMMENTS TO:

E-mail: marianas.tap.eis@navy.mil
Postal mail: Mariana Islands Range Complex EIS
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Attn: EV2
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134.

Time has started ticking for the CNMI and Guam to comment on the U.S. military's over 1,400-page study on the potential environmental impact of increased military activities in training areas known as the Mariana Islands Range Complex, MIRC.

The 45-day comment period began on Jan. 30 and ends on March 16, 2009.

The training and testing range complex includes land, air and sea areas on and around Guam, Rota, Tinian, Saipan and Farrallon de Medinilla.

Before any increase in military activity or presence in the Marianas, the military must determine what impact those activities will have on the environment, which comprises not just water resources, air quality, marine mammals, sea turtles, fish and essential fish habitat, seabirds and shorebirds and plants, but also the economic well-being, cultural resources and the health and safety of people living in the CNMI and Guam.

The study identifies aspects that could act as "stressors" to the environment.

The stressors considered for analysis of potential environmental consequences include but are not limited to vessel and vehicle movements, aircraft overflights, non-explosive practice munitions, sonar, and underwater detonations, high explosive ordnance, building modification and foot traffic.

Yesterday, CNMI Land and Natural Resources Secretary Dr. Ike de la Cruz said it is important for the general public to read the draft study.

"The impact on the environment is a very important concern that's why I recommend we review the draft study," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

This early, some CNMI residents have expressed concern about the possible entry of more brown tree snakes from Guam, effects on sea turtles, humpback whales and other species, and water contamination, among other things.

However, the draft environmental impact statement/overseas environmental impact statement states that "no significant impacts are identified for any resource area in any geographic location within the MIRC study area that cannot be mitigated, with the exception of exposure of marine mammals to underwater sound."

The draft EIS/OEIS says that "existing hazardous materials and waste management systems are sufficient for handling of wastes generated," and that there's "no significant harm to water quality" and "air quality."

It also says the proposed action has no significant harm to fish populations or habitat, seabirds and shorebirds, among other things.

A copy of the draft MIRC IEIS/OEIS can be accessed online at http://www.marianasrangecomplexeis.com/otherresources.aspx.

The U.S. Navy drafted the EIS/OEIS to study the potential effects on the environment "from current and future military training and testing activities in the Mariana Islands."

Volume 1 of the draft MIRC EIS/OEIS consists of 868 pages, while Volume 2 has 576 pages.

Different from relocation impact study

The MIRC EIS/OEIS document is different from the Guam and CNMI Marine Relocation EIS/OEIS for the relocation of Marine forces from Okinawa to Guam, which has been estimated to cost as much as $15 billion. The relocation EIS/OEIS is still being worked on.

The buildup calls for the relocation of some 8,000 U.S. Marines and about 9,000 of their family members to Guam from 2010 to 2014.

However, there will be overlap between the two EIS/OEIS in the area of increased use of existing military ranges as a result of the pending relocation.

The proposed action focuses on the development and improvement of existing training capabilities in the MIRC to achieve service readiness, and will not include any military construction projects.

Public hearings

The U.S. Navy has scheduled five public hearings on the draft MIRC EIS/OEIS in the CNMI and Guam.

Each of them will consist of an open house session and a two-hour public hearing from 7pm to 9pm for the public to learn more and provide comments on the draft study. Project team representatives will be available during the open house

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American Samoa businesses hurt by wage hikes

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa, (Samoa News/PIR)—As the private sector is faced with increased labor costs due to the first two-minimum wage increases, the Chamber of Commerce has called on Congressman Faleomavaega Eni to do all he can to halt the next increase set for May 2009.

This week, Chamber president David Robinson submitted to Faleomavaega a letter outlining the Chamber's concerns about the continued minimum wage escalator clause and the impact it has already had and will have on the business community if other increases are not suspended.

The Chamber hopes the Congressman will submit this information into congressional records when this issue is discussed by Congress and the information can then be used in the effort to halt the escalator clause.

Robinson said the local economy is "fragile at best", relying on the two canneries and the government to provide the majority of employment, and with this employment it provides a considerable amount of disposable income that assists in keeping the small and medium size businesses alive here.

"These businesses, which are an important part of our economy and all the residents of the Territory, have faced a torrid time over the past twelve months," he wrote.

He said oil prices rose dramatically, leading to increases in the cost of diesel generated electricity by approximately 100 percent, and an increase in shipping services, on which American Samoa is completely reliant.

Fuel prices and the cost of basic foodstuff, such as tinned fish, rice and chicken, rose dramatically—in some instances by as much as 80 percent, he said.

(The Consumer Price Index report released last week by the Commerce Department for 2008 states food went up in one year by about 25 percent with rice leading the increase; housing costs up by 17 percent and transportation increased by 9 percent).

The Chamber president says the first two-minimum wage increases "have exacerbated the difficulties of doing business, and are leading many businesses to wonder whether it is worthwhile continuing to keep their doors open."

"Many local businesses have already reduced staff numbers because the minimum wage increase[s] caused a compression effect on their entire hourly paid staff," Robinson said. "The canneries and some businesses were affected by the first and second wage increases because a large percentage of their work force was paid the minimum wage."

"In a majority of small and medium sized businesses, most of the workforce was already paid at a rate that was somewhat higher than minimum wage—in the US$4 to US$5 range," he said. "For this reason, the first two wage increases had less of an impact. However, there was still considerable wage compression, which has led to an unsustainable wage structure in which skilled and unskilled employees are now paid at close to the same rate."

Robinson points out that one typical large-sized local business, with a workforce of approximately 125, has already been forced to reduce staff to 90 (a reduction of 28 percent). A typical small-sized local business, with a workforce of approximately 11, was forced to reduce staff to 7 (a reduction of 36 percent).

"In both cases, the reductions were carried out in order to control costs as a result of the first two wage increases, and in anticipation of the third increase in May," said Robinson.

(Because of confidentiality reasons, the Chamber didn't cite the names of the two companies outlined in the letter. Samoa News understands the two companies and others in the private sector agreed to provide data only if the names of their companies were not made public in any way.)

Robinson said the Chamber anticipates the next increase, in May 2009, will "have a significantly greater impact" on current levels of employment.

He reminded the Congressman the Chamber had "voiced its strong opposition" to the federal bill that imposed the automatic wage hikes, when it was moved through Congress two years ago.

"This ridiculous piece of legislation was foisted upon us without the slightest attempt by Congress to initiate any form of prior investigation as to the state of our economy, or whether the increases would be economically sustainable," he said.

"Congressman, the business community is very angry about being subjected to the relentless pressures imposed by the escalator clause, and the prospect of their businesses closing as a result of its continuance," he wrote. "We ask you to express our views to the law makers in Washington in the strongest terms and ask them, in the name of reason and common sense, to remove the clause from the bill."

"We insist that we be allowed to determine our own regular wage increases, as dictated by the shape of the economy and what local businesses can absorb," he said.

PUBLIC

From Page 3

to answer questions related to the draft EIS/OEIS.

The first public hearing will be in Guam, on Feb. 19 and 20.

This will be followed by a Feb. 23 hearing on Saipan, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The Tinian hearing will be held Feb. 24 in the cafeteria of Tinian Elementary School.

On Rota, the public hearing will be Feb. 26 in the Sinapalo Elementary School cafeteria.

Written comments about the draft EIS/OEIS may be submitted during the open house sessions and public hearings, or sent via e-mail at marianas.tap.eis@navy.mil or via postal mail: Marianas Islands Range Complex EIS, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Attn: EV2, Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134.

The MIRC is used to support tactical training by the U.S. military services, including the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Army Reserves, and National Guard, in the Western Pacific Theater.

In the notice of public hearings on the Federal Register, the Department of Defense said the proposed action does not involve extensive changes to MIRC facilities, operations, trainings, or research, development, test and evaluation capacities.

Rather, the proposed action would result in relatively small-scale but critical enhancements to the MIRC that are necessary if the military services are to maintain a state of military readiness in line with their national defense mission.

2009

From Page 1

Camacho will announce the decision next month in the state rounds, where the final four will be selected as the CNMI's official representatives to the national contest.

"This is our 15th year…and maybe the last," he told *Saipan Tribune.*

Mainly sponsored by his company, Camacho said the event costs EFC about $10,000 annually.

"Just to run it every year, it costs about $10,000, from the preliminaries up to sending the winners to the national event…and we've been doing it for 15 years. We're just fortunate that we still have sponsors who helped us this year," he said.

Camacho, who is also executive director of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, said his company may not be able to continue holding the event after he put his company on hold due to his job at CPA.

EFC is one of the CPA's contractors. Camacho earlier decided to "freeze" the company so as not to pose a conflict with his job at the agency.

"This event is mainly sponsored by private businesses and, with the present economy, it's very difficult for the private sector to continue on," he admitted.

"We will announce our decision in the state competition," he added.

Camacho vowed to fulfill his "last" obligation to the event by sending the top four winners to Florida in May.

"We will surely send them to the national," he said, adding that he feels sad losing this "great opportunity" for CNMI students.

Calvary Christian Academy teacher and coach Vanesa Pritchard expressed her disappointment over the possible discontinuance of the event next year.

"I am a little bit disappointed…but we understand the state of the economy. We're just hoping that somebody else would be able to sponsor and somehow get Mathcounts to continue in the CNMI. This is a great competition and it inspires [students] to study and love math. This is something that would truly help them in their future career," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

CCA, Pritchard said, has been in the competition for 10 years.

For Saipan International School student Hyeon Joon Jun, Mathcounts has been a provider of "wonderful experience" to every participants.

"Because math applies to any jobs…it is something that helps us prepare for our future. I hope it will continue," he said.

Joon Jun emerged as this year's third best player in the individual round.

He vowed to do his best in the state competition next month to grab the opportunity to be in the national contest.

"For me, Mathcounts makes students competitive, learn how to make friends with others, and develop teamwork and cooperation among students. It is also where we learn how to apply strategies…and aim high for the best," he added.

CCA

From Page 1

dents in the competition, held Saturday at the Multi-Purpose Center.

Garnering the highest group score of 50.75, Calvary Christian Academy Team A was adjudged this year's chapter team champion against second best team players from Marianas Baptist Academy Team A, which got 47.75 overall score.

CCA's Team B became the third best team by recording 44.5 percent, while Saipan International School Team A was named fourth team winner, garnering 40.5 percentage.

The tandem of CCA brothers Ji Hoon Choi and Won Woo Choi added some highlights to the competition with both ruling the countdown round, where the top 10 finalists competed against each other.

After eliminating opponents mostly in the contest's sudden-death victory rule, Ji Hoon Choi was adjudged the overall individual winner, while his brother Won Woo Choi emerged second best player.

Also in the top 10 were SIS' Hyeon Joon Jun; MBA's Suk Koo Kim; MBA's Hye Young Oh; Mount Carmel School's Feng Liang Lizama; CCA's Min Jeong Jang; CCA's Han Sol Yu; Saipan Community School's Eron Constante; and MBA's Se Young Hwang.

Mathcounts, organized by EFC Engineer & Architects, is an annual competition that challenges students at their high-level mathematical ability and gives them the opportunity to compete at the national level.

Martha Camacho, chapter and state Mathcounts coordinator, said they are elated at the success of the event, which marked its 15th year in the CNMI.

"It ran really smoothly, everybody knew their roles…and we're happy to see the success of Mathcounts here," she told *Saipan Tribune,* adding that they're expecting a more challenging round in the state competition slated for next month.

The top four individual winners in the state contest will represent the Commonwealth at the national level. The 2009 Mathcounts national competition will be held in Walt Disney World Swan & Dolphin Resort in Florida in May.

To qualify for the state rounds, each participating school is entitled to enter two teams with a maximum of four members for each group.

Camacho said the Mathcounts competition motivates students to do upper level math, measures higher thinking skills of participants, and provides a venue and opportunity for young talents to practice their mathematical capabilities.

CCA's teacher coach Vanesa Pritchard said Saturday's honor was a result of the students' hard work and patience.

"We've been practicing since September and I made up a little curriculum of different things we want to cover throughout our practice," she said of the strategy used by team members who went home victorius.

Pritchard was also elated at the "honor" given by brothers Ji Hoon Choi and Won Woo Choi.

"Those two boys are really gifted," she shared.

Pritchard is optimistic that CCA teams will show up at the state contest with more preparations and practice.

"We will continue practicing and increase a little bit our preparation for the state competition," she said.

EFC is grateful to all the community supporters who helped make Saturday's event possible. These include major sponsors DFS Saipan, Chong's Corp., Bridge Capital LLC, IT&E, Subway, Coca Cola, Foremost, Joeten Charitable Foundation, Deloitte & Touche, National Office Supply, Tae Woo, and Yonsei Academy.

PSS

From Page 1

Sablan admitted that funding shortages continue to affect the other programs of PSS.

"The reason behind is the financial condition that we're experiencing. With the recent 5-percent across-the-board budget cut, it really added more challenges to us," she said.

Because they feel NMC is more equipped to provide adult basic education, Sablan said that PSS is now communicating with the college about the transfer of ADI students to NMC.

"We did request the NMC president to allow the transfer of our students to their ABE program…and it's happening now," Sablan said.

The PSS commissioner, through the Education Board's committee, earlier recommended the suspension of ADI starting in school year 2009-2010. However, *Saipan Tribune* learned that due to the recent budget cut, the decision was made to implement it this school year.

In terminating the program, an estimated hundred-plus dropout students may be affected annually, based on the program's statistics in the last three years.

In 2000, the PSS-ADI noted its biggest enrollment of 190 students; it accommodated at least 90 enrollees each year thereafter.

A trimester program, the last session was held from Aug. 11 through Nov. 3 with 70 registered students—the lowest recorded by PSS.

Mostly composed of 19-year-olds, majority of enrollees were referrals from families in the community and referrals from the three biggest high schools on island—Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High, and Kagman High.

ADI served individuals who are 16 years old and older.

A total of 301 individuals have already graduated from the program since its inception.

PSS pays seven teachers and instructors to attend to the night sessions.

At the start of the program, PSS used "donations" to sustain its operations. Throughout the years, ADI remained an "unbudgeted program" of PSS.

Besides English and math classes, life-skill courses were offered at ADI. These included occupational knowledge, community resources, government law, health, consumer economics, and budget.

Last week, NMC reported a record turnout of attendees in the orientation for its ABE program. Nearly 150 students attended the session, the largest in the program's 20-year history at NMC.

Petition for green card fee waiver has 130 signatures so far

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A petition to waive the "green card" application fee and other requirements for immediate relatives of U.S. citizens has so far gathered 130 signatures, according to United Workers Movement NMI acting president Rabby Syed.

Immediate relatives of U.S. and Freely Associated States citizens are rushing to secure a "green card" or face losing their immigration status by June 1 when the federal government takes over CNMI immigration, unless extended.

Of the 130 signatures, about 30 were gathered at the Sabalu Market in Susupe on Saturday.

Syed said the group will continue to gather signatures for the petition addressed to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

"We will have a petition drive at the Tuesday market in Garapan, and also on Tinian and Rota. I don't have the signatures from those in Kagman yet… We're asking the local residents to also support our petition and we thank those who are giving us advice and feedback," Syed said yesterday.

Syed said a green card application costs more than $3,000, and most IRs eligible to apply for a green card cannot meet the minimum income requirement set by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

"Our minimum wage in the CNMI is different from the mainland. It's difficult to meet the federal government's income requirements based on the number of household members," said Syed, adding that these IRs face losing their immigration status on June 1.

He said the group will also be seeking the support of CNMI Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan to their petition.

Syed said a sponsor with two household members must have an annual income of at least $17,500 based on the 2008 poverty guidelines, which he described as impossible to meet given that the minimum wage in the CNMI is only $4.05 an hour.

He cited some fees required: federal fee for petitioning an alien relative, $355; for an adjustment to permanent status, $930; fingerprinting fee; $80. These fees are in addition to the medical examination fee of $800; and an estimated attorney's fee of $1,000. Green card applicants and sponsors may soon have the fingerprinting on Saipan instead of going to Guam.

Bayani donates $500 to Guma Esperansa

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Bayani Association will donate today $500 to Guma Esperansa (House of Hope), which provides free shelter and assistance to victims of human trafficking and sexual assaults in the CNMI.

Tina Lifoifoi, president of Bayani Association, said the donated amount was the net proceeds of a Jan. 17 cultural song and dance show. The donation will take place at the Karidat office in Chalan Kanoa today.

She said the show, "Balik-Tanaw sa Kulturang Pinoy (A look back at the Filipino culture)," achieved its two main goals: to promote the Filipino culture through traditional dances and songs and to help victims of human trafficking and sexual assault.

In calendar year 2007 alone, at least 50 victims of human trafficking sought assistance from Guma Esperansa, up from only 28 the previous year.

"It's our way of helping others in need," Lifoifoi said.

Bayani, a Filipino term for "hero," is composed of Filipino workers in the CNMI who have taken classes in one or more of the skills upgrading courses offered by the Philippine Overseas Labor Office at the Marianas Business Plaza (formerly Nauru Building) in Susupe.

Lifoifoi said Bayani plans to have another cultural show in March to raise funds for another of its ongoing project—sending to school the children of former overseas Filipino workers who are now having difficulty at home. The planned show will again include 16 traditional dances.

Residents deserve repayment for broken appliances–Reyes

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

A local lawmaker says residents deserve tax credit or rebates for appliances broken by repeated power outages.

Rep. Joseph C. Reyes, in a letter to the Public Utilities Commission, said residents should also be given credit for the disruption of television broadcasting, either because of lack of power or because MCV's studio was down.

Reyes earlier asked for consumers to call his office to report broken appliances caused by power outages. His office received 56 calls, with an estimated loss of more than $63,000, he said.

"I ask that your committee look into this matter and obligate the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to compensate the victims for their losses before any lawsuit is initiated," he said in the letter to PUC chair Viola Alepuyo.

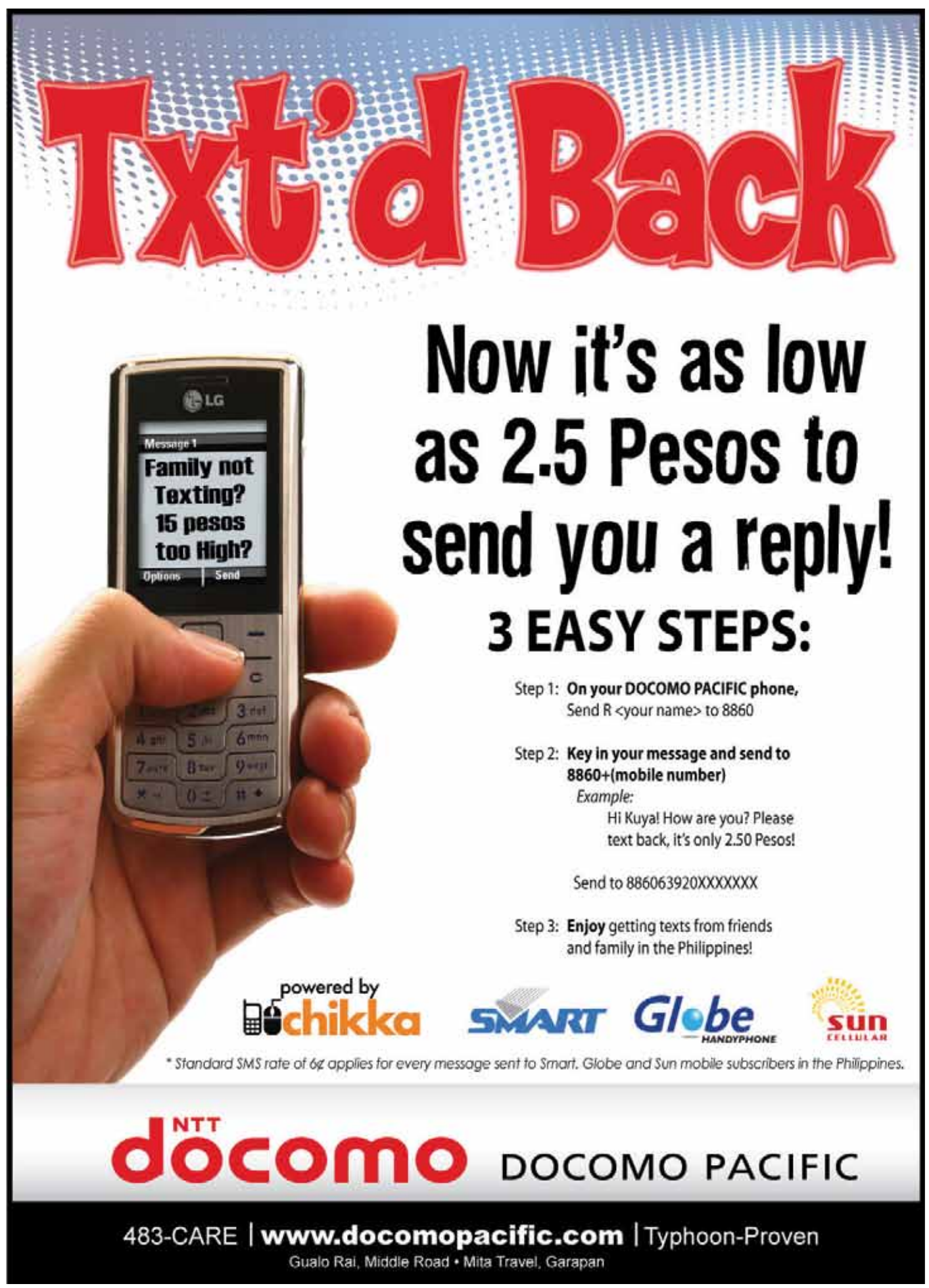
Before any lawsuit is discussed, Reyes said it would behoove PUC to look into the matter.

"High rates and broken appliances do not add up to the expectations and standards of consumers," he said.

PUC should also look into television broadcast downtime, the representative said.

"Our consumers deserve to receive credit adjustments or refunds on their cable television bills from both CUC and MCV for the hours that they were deprived of the service," he said in the letter.

If there are no PUC regulations for such cases, Reyes urged the commission to think about creating some. Legislation could also be introduced for consumers.


Txt'd Back
Now it's as low as 2.5 Pesos to send you a reply!
3 EASY STEPS:
Step 1: On your DOCOMO PACIFIC phone, Send R <your name> to 8860
Step 2: Key in your message and send to 8860+(mobile number)
Example:
Hi Kuya! How are you? Please text back, it's only 2.50 Pesos!
Send to 886063920XXXXXXX
Step 3: Enjoy getting texts from friends and family in the Philippines!
Family not Texting? 15 pesos too High?
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SMART
Globe HANDYPHONE
sun CELLULAR
* Standard SMS rate of 6¢ applies for every message sent to Smart, Globe and Sun mobile subscribers in the Philippines.
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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE
OVERSTAYERS REPORT
Monday, February 9, 2009, first publication
Monday, February 16, 2009, second publication

Notice is hereby given that, according to the records maintained by the Commonwealth as of January 28, 2009, the following persons have overstayed the permission granted upon their entry to the Commonwealth for employment purposes. Persons in an overstayer status are required to depart the Commonwealth immediately. Persons who depart the Commonwealth voluntarily are eligible to return; those who are deported are not eligible to return.

Permissions granted upon entry may have been extended or the entry status may be changed under a number of different provisions of the Commonwealth law, but all extensions and changes must be documented and the applicable fees paid. If the necessary applications and supporting document have not been correctly completed, filed, or recorded, a name may appear in overstayer status although an extension may have been granted upon completion or recording of the necessary documentation.

If your name is on the list set out below and you have or should have a current status allowing you to be in the Commonwealth, please report to Evelyn Sablan, Executive Secretary to the Director of Labor, second floor, Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, Saipan, no later than February 23, 2009, to correct the records.

Name	LIDS No.
*****, SHAHID	162889
ABADILLA, RUBEN F	112404
ABALOS, VERONICA RULLODA	285888
ACABAL, VIVIAN H	120639
AGBAYANI, REYNALYN S	137703
AGUIRRE, EVELYN N	103941
AHN, SOO JI	159648
ALAVA, AMELIA SAYNO	170696
ALBANO, CECILIA JAVIER	105373
ANDAYA, DANIELI	104910
ANTONIO, MARINELL ALGAMON	310934
ARNALDO, AURORA	103934
AZIZ, MD	153675
BALASUBRAMANIAM, RASIAH P	150275
BALBIN, CONSTANTINO P	139920
BALLESTEROS, PETRONILO RETUYAN	293078
BANTILAN, ARNEL E	101803
BAPTISTA, LETICIA V	139556
BATALLONES, SHIRLEY	105926
BAUTISTA, BERNABE	146315
BIAN, XIAOFENG	193423
BRILLANTES, ESTELA BAUTISTA	127911
BUENVIAJE, ROLANDO B	118709
BUNDOC, WALTER P	129032
BUNPANYA, ANCHANAPORN	110724
BUSTILLOS, DANILO ANCHETA	312068
CABILES, EDUARDO SOBREMONTE	143372
CABUGNASON, RODOLFO R	150706
CACHO, TERESITA E	126133
CADAG, MA GEMMA DIZON	133446
CAMACHO, JOKER GROSPE	173631
CAMPOLLO, HERMINIA	128725
CASTILLO, LEONDIA F	124938
CAYLAN, LYDIA M	128143
CENTENO, LYNN BUGARIN	129742
CHEN, JUN	282517
CHEN, MEIHONG	291073
CHEN, WEIZHU	144092
CHEN, XURONG	311585
CHEN, YAFANG	144096
CHEN, YAN JUN	155045
CHENG, HONGYING	162833
CHO, IL KYUN	200888
CISNERO, JACQUELINE MANUEL	286541
COLCOL, LOLITA N	125803
CORDERO, PEVIMA B	183865
CORILLA, GAUDENCIA	112532
COTACTE, CELSO D	117506
CRUZ, MARY GRACE ISLA	134841
CUI, HU	286765
CULANGGO, LUCIA INOCIAN	313413
DAVID, REYNALDO S	112437
DELA CRUZ, JESUS EUGENIO	105825
DELA CRUZ, RANDY R	120692
DELOS SANTOS, YOLANDA D	123949
DIG, RAMIR D	118887
DIGMAYO, LOURDES ANTONIO	299965
DINOPOL, MERLY CORREOS	127308
DIONORA, DORINA B	110486
DIZON, ELMER A	160755
DLC CORDERO, GERALDINE C.	116949
DOMAOAL, JOCELYN DLC	123948
DONA, TITO ABUAN	286522
DONG, HUNA	122420
DU, HONGYAN	196436
DUANGJANDAENG, WILAIPORN	174808
DUATIN, GREGORIO B	148268
DUMALE, JULIETA VIRAY	300578
ESPARTERO, FAYE MONETTE PEREZ	205065
ESPIRIDION, EDITHA C	200154
EZURE, MASAYUKI	294179
FACTOR, LEO DELA CRUZ	203169
FANG, HUI	282560
FASONILAO, MARITES BAGUNA	203685
FENG, QUANXIA	201626
FENG, YANHUAN	157409
FEROLINO, VILMA T	160159
FIGUEROA, EDUARDO M	104637
FLORENTINO JR, AUGUSTO C	128743
FLORES, DOMINADOR JR MEJIA	311481
FLORES, RICARDO JUNTILLA	172189
FUENTES, EVELYN C	135079
FULE JR, BENJAMIN GINO	294440
GAGAJENA, GILFREDO M	140603
GALGO, EMIE H.	106889
GALUTERA, MARGIE DELEON	170765
GASPAR, RIZALINO JR I	157349
GAURAN, SAMUEL DELA PENA	174405
GENEZ, ELIZABETH A	149993
GILERA, ARTHUR JUSI	122172
GONZAGA, DIANA DOYOLA	294453
GOZUN, VIRGILIO F	126154
GU, GUO HUA	146042
GU, ZHENG HUI	197724
GUAN, YAN WEI	163968
GUIANG, FLORENDA B	130394
GUILALAS, JOEL B	195200
GUIRRA, DESIDERIO BAGNOL	127324
GUMAPAS, VICENTE A	126667
GUO, GUANGFU	295075
GUO, GUOFENG	149109
HAFALLA, CLAIRE GADIA	293605
HAN, YINSHU	191577
HARADA, KENJI	182778
HE, JIANDONG	311801
HE, LIQING	301104
HE, XIU JUN	204194
HERNANDEZ, OFELIA M	105113
HOQUE, FOZLUL	164188
HU, PING	174325
HU, QUNXING	166227
HUANG, JI HONG	166930
HUANG, LIAN JIN	181936
HUANG, MEIZI	294298
HUANG, PINGFEN	192079
HUANG, XIAO LAN	166200
IGNACIO, JIMMY ANDRES	283843
ISLAM, MD SIRAJUL	131716
JI, YONGLI	181044
JIANG, QINLIAN	294499
JIANG, XUEPING	191882
JIN, SHU	162289
JIN, YUNLONG	162047
JUANTAKHOB, KANNIKA	165851
KANAGASABAI, RASALINGAM	127765
KWON, TAEYWON	311797
LACSON, ROSALIE ISIP	283256
LAGARTOS, MARILYN AUTOR	205571
LAI, DONGGUI	122318
LAOSON, KITTI	170063
LASANTHIAH, NITAYA	163940
LI, FU	287954
LI, GENWANG	195792
LI, HUI	175102
LI, HUIQIN	203890
LI, JULIN	284087
LI, MEIHUA	202608
LI, WANG FANG	203761
LI, WEI	311727
LI, YANXIA	190669
LI, YONGJUN	194705
LI, YUANFU	163458
LI, ZHI CHENG	204788
LIANG, FANG MING	158623
LIANG, XIU YUAN	135156
LIN, YABO	139724
LIN, YUNHUI	300161
LITUSQUEN, NERCITA SIAROT	126783
LIU, SHU JING	165054
LIU, XIA	182190
LORICA, MA TERESITA RANILI	202499
LU, JIAN PING	102120
LUAT, ARMANDO GILE	299246
LUO, YIXIN	183401

Name	LIDS No.
MAGAYAGA, EMELITA A	122936
MAKILAN, RAMELO V	116772
MALIWANAG, GERALDO AVERILLA	189965
MALLILLIN, MARIVIC E	137328
MANICDAO, RAMON VERGARA	285250
MARQUEZ, ELIZABETH V	148581
MARTIN, FEDERICO PACADA	201388
MAURICIO, TERESITA F	115848
MC ENTEE, CHARLIE REDERA	198264
MEI, SHUHUA	189898
MENDIOLA, EVER T	141760
MIGUEL, RUFINO P	166684
MOHAMMAD, REZZAK	175276
MOISES JR, ERNESTO TASIC	204768
MUNOZ, ELENO P	143059
NAMBUNLA, NUTCHANAT	111139
NARDO, ELIZABETH B	157027
NAULGAN, DOMING P	161962
NAVARRO, MAR CABANTAC	286269
NOBLE, ROWENA	120655
ONGA, ALICIA M	154162
ORTIZ, REYNALDO BANASCA	310451
PACLETA, SONIA P	106900
PAGDILAO, CLARITA A	152708
PARULI, ANGELO M	107750
PHIAMALANG, KESARAPORN	190088
PHOSAI, ATTHAPHON	182133
PINEDA, ORLANDO O	110787
PITOGO, MARCIAL	154146
PORIO, JENIFER STA. ANA	312609
PREMADASA, WAGURE G	151925
PULIDO, MARILOU	128752
PUNO, ARNULFO S	105291
QIU, DECHENG	301070
QUINITIP, ROMMEL UBUNGEN	290588
QUINTELA, ROSIELYN J	156750
RAENGKHRUT, KAWINTHIP	288773
RAO, YI	203428
RICHA, REX O	121729
RIVERA, CHARLIE ALAYAN	300952
ROBINSON, ERIC MCKENZIE	198021
SABALDICA, LUDIMER CASTRO	299868
SAE-TIA, NATNICHA	106301
SAKAMOTO, TOMOKO	299988
SALANDANAN, MARCELINO B	123381
SANTILLAN, MELINDA T	106902
SANTOS, ROBERTO T	110588
SAPO, ASUNCION	122937
SATO, HIROSHI	126376
SENO, ANITA LINDA GONATO	172195
SHEN, CHUNYUAN	300163
SHEN, FUZI	298377
SHEN, XING GUO	164598
SHENG, YINJUAN	181819
SHI, HONGLI	286297
SHIN, KYUNG JA CHUNG	190385
SHU, HUIYAN	285416
SI, WEI PING	164019
SIM, DONG-SUB	191175
SIMBULAN, CLEMENTE A	194860
SINGSON, ROSALIE MAYONGUE	204602
SOMWONG, SUPRANEE	139661
SONG, GUOPING	297672
SONG, XIAOMING	311485
SORIANO, EDWIN CABACAB	291730
SORIANO, EDWIN DIAZ	300413
SORNWICHAI, KITTIMA	175656
SOTO, BERNADETTE LEDESMA	202770
SRIWONGSA, RATTANA	165942
SU, MEI	280268
SUICO, CELESTINO T	127647
SUISENA, RUNGRUDEE	165930
SUKSAENG, SONKLIN	165847
SUTTHISOMBUT, VICHAI	170050
SYCHEVA, ELENA	312881
TABAYOYONG, MODESTO ACOSTA	204866
TANG, MING	191833
TANG, YUEXIN	172599
TANI, KAORI	190171
THABTHIMHIN, ARTHIT	105146
TU, XIANGLIANG	295293
TUAZON, PERLITA A	112511
TUMENJARGAL, BAYARTSETSEG	312691
TUNIN, PHANOM	176413
UDOMPORN, SUMALEE	102409
UMALIN, ISABEL ARAGON	203707
UTHAIWAN, KANYA	165944
VERGARA, FLORANTE I	144687
VINOYA, ROLANDO N	151620
WADA, SATOSHI	295261
WANG, CHANGXIU	198066
WANG, HUI	303120
WANG, JING	280454
WANG, LIZHEN	158955
WANG, QI	152909
WANG, QIN	194444
WANG, TONGHUA	148352
WANG, WEN JUAN	184393
WANG, XIANGLI	300991
WANG, YUEZHEN	296597
WANPHAKDI, SUNTHON	188164
WIANGNON, ORATHAI	188261
WIYAROT, RUANG	166088
WU, JIAOQING	284098
WU, YAN	203841
WU, YILU	153416
WU, YONGSHUANG	296383
WU, YUE E	159699
WU, ZHENYU	148950
XIA, ZISHUANG	203842
XIAO, YANBANG	155050
XIE, GUOHUI	293608
XU, CHENG MING	284497
XU, HONG HUI	166997
XU, HONGFANG	291063
XU, HONGYU	286336
XU, HUILI	161260
XU, QILUN	153405
XU, XIANWANG	146511
XU, XIN	284240
XU, YINHUA	295266
XUAN, HAOZHE	199649
XUE, HUIYUN	300656
XUE, XIUQING	120035
YANG, HONG JIU	282942
YANG, MEIFANG	291078
YE, HUAYING	130280
YIN, YUHUA	280462
YU, WEIHONG	183308
YUAN, YUN	312128
YUE, LIYAN	282651
ZHAN, YANLING	293741
ZHANG, FANZHU	121042
ZHANG, HUIMIN	294163
ZHANG, MIN	311375
ZHANG, XIUFANG	287948
ZHANG, YARU	282179
ZHAO, CHEN XIN	153422
ZHAO, GE	281569
ZHAO, LIANRONG	145719
ZHAO, LIYAN	155117
ZHAO, REN HONG	158624
ZHAO, SHUQING	145803
ZHAO, XUEYING	159558
ZHEN, HAIXIA	173739
ZHENG, LIWEN	293607
ZHI, HUI	298025
ZHIQIANG, JING	155136
ZHONG, GUOQIANG	160668
ZHOU, ANMIN	280525
ZHOU, JIWEI	180649
ZHU, BAIHUA	201498
ZHUANG, HONGHONG	300753
ZINAMIDER, BAIGALMAA	312689

Who is Eria Elliot?

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Eria Elliot, a 28-year-old Palauan, is regularly seen roaming the island's streets and entering establishments to ask for food and money from passersby, customers, and tourists.

Elliot has been in and out of jail due to several criminal charges, mostly for assaulting people and disturbing the peace. Judges also issued numerous bench warrants for his arrest for not appearing at court hearings.

Many people, however, are not aware that this Palauan has also been admitted several times to the Commonwealth Health Center.

A psychiatrist, Dr. Willie Gutowski, disclosed that Elliot has been a familiar patient at CHC for acute psychosis related to alcohol and marijuana abuse.

Gutowski issued a medical report on June 28, 2006, regarding Elliot after Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo directed the doctor to conduct an examination on the defendant.

In issuing the order on June 23, 2006, Govendo suspended all proceedings in Elliot's criminal cases.

In his report, Gutowski said the defendant suffers from schizophrenia and has auditory hallucinations. The doctor, however, determined that the defendant was competent to stand trial.

In July 2007, Judge Ramona Manglona issued a bench warrant for the arrest of Elliot for not appearing during court hearings in four criminal cases. He was arrested later.

Last month, Manglona issued another bench warrant against Elliot for non-appearance in the same cases. He was subsequently arrested.

Last Thursday, associate judge David Wiseman issued another bench warrant against the defendant for non-appearance. On Friday, Elliot was arrested and taken before Govendo.

Govendo released Elliot and ordered him to come back to court on Feb. 11 for his arraignment.

According to court documents, the defendant's latest case involves assault and battery for allegedly punching in the face Joselito Rivera on July 2, 2008.

Elliot has a pending 2006 case for shattering the window of a car owned by Edwin Aaron Johnson on July 15, 2006.

Another 2006 case involved disturbing the peace for allegedly harassing customers at the Garapan Market while intoxicated.

In 2007, Elliot was also charged with assault and battery for hitting Noimy Dakanno Obed with a serving tray.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0956/0957 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0995

NOTICE OF HEARINGS
PENDING DENIAL APPEALS
Monday, February 09, 2009 first notice
Monday, February 16, 2009 second notice

ALL PERSONS OR PARTIES LISTED BELOW ARE INSTRUCTED TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, SECOND FLOOR, AFETNA SQUARE BUILDING, SAN ANTONIO, ON THE DATE AND AT THE TIME LISTED BELOW. PLEASE BRING ANY DOCUMENTATION NECESSARY TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES THAT LED TO THE DENIAL OF YOUR PERMIT APPLICATION. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR OR FAIL TO BRING REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION, THE APPEAL MAY BE DISMISSED AND AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU. ANY EMPLOYEE WHO INTENDS TO REQUEST PERMISSION TO TRANSFER TO A NEW EMPLOYER MUST APPEAR AT THE HEARING TO MAKE THAT REQUEST; FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DENIAL OF TRANSFER RELIEF.

Any employer whose denial arose from a failure to submit documentation, and whose documentation is now complete, may report to the Director of Labor and have the denial cleared. Any employer whose denial has been cleared does not need to appear at the Hearing.

DC No.	Employer	Employee	Date & Time
DC 08-644	Ablog, Nestor	Esguerra, Cheryl	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-666	Ablog, Nestor	Estebanm, Noel	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-645	Ablog, Nestor	Marquez, Johanna	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-647	Ablog, Nestor	Mendoza, Joelan	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-649	Ablog, Nestor	Reyes, Efren	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-667	Ablog, Nestor	Valino, Rustico	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-648	Ablog, Nestor	Vergel De Dios, Martin	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-646	Ablog, Nestor	Villarin, Edcar	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-110	Ada, Rosalinda	Farro, Ferdinand	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-111	Ada, Rosalinda	Farro, Rocelia	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-995	Alpex Saipan Inc.	Padayao, Veronica	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-994	Alpex Saipan Inc.	Sagarino, Nicasio	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-493	Big Bell Inc.	Jin, Yufen	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-015	Bisnes Mami Inc.	Lucero, Arlo G.	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-280	Bisnes Mami Inc.	Samar, Blasito	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-086	Brundidge, Willie L.	Tajan, Romeo	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-396	Cabrera, Rosalie	Demegillo, Ruther	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-779	Camacho, Anita	Hibi, Marcianita	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-841	Camacho, Barbara Jean	Biteranta, Analee	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-1123	Castro, Augustin	Chen, Huaping	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-088	Fei Ma Industrial Co Ltd.	Dong, Xu Kun	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-600	Geng Biao Corp.	Cui, Shun Yu	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-865	Gintian Corporation	He, Jinlian	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-581	Graphics Inc.	Novillas, Ernesto	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-1134	H Deveplopment LLC	Staffler, Enrico	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-1031	Han Nam Corporation	Paek, Mi Ae	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-993	Hotel Riviera Saipan Inc.	Japitana, Carmen M.	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-821	In Deok Lee	Habijuddin, Raquel	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-288	J Lucky Corporation	Quinata, Juan Han	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-263	JCJ Co, Ltd.	Li, Donghua	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-314	Kangshun Corp.	Huang, Ying	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-1140	L&Y Corporation	Ligaya, Antonio	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-1141	L&Y Corporation	Padayao, Antonio Jr. C.	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 07-439	Lai's American Corporation	Yang, Yigen	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-520	Man Bao Corporation	Zhao, Yuanrong	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-961	Marquez, Geraldine	Seman, Jesse/Tricia	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-345	Mirano, Earl	Corpuz, Russel R.	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-1027	My Way Corporation	Jin, Xuehua	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-067	Naina Enterprises Inc.	Kumar, Amit	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-414	Naron, Venus	Dang, Hong Ha Thi	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-415	Naron, Venus	Martinez, Teresita	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-758	Noah Saipan Inc.	Miranda, Pilar	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-761	Pacific Sun Lines Inc.	Cui, Qing Yu	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-906	Palm Springs Life Ext. Inc.	Sun, Ronglan	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-1139	Philpan Int'l Corporation	Ali, Md Uesub	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-1018	Power Corporation	Kim, Kwon Nam	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-158	Roberto, Juan B.	Entendez, Romeo	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-656	Sablan, Deverly Davina	Caintoy, Raquel	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-103	San Nicolas, Rebecca	Divina, Ronaldo	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-970	Soo Min Corporation	Park, Eun Jeong Kim	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-601	Teregeyo, Marianne	Santiago, Ricardo	2/24/09 AT 9AM
DC 08-471	World Int'l Corp.	Flores, Jeffrey	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-352	Yong He Pacific Corp.	Tang, Xin Mei	2/24/09 AT 1PM
DC 08-292	Yong Sang Pacific Corp.	Im, Inah	2/24/09 AT 1PM

'Grant funds for Labor stopped due to Benedetto'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The two top officials of the CNMI Labor Department believe that former federal ombudsman James Benedetto is to blame for the withholding of federal grant funds that were earlier available for the department's operations. The funds, they said, have not been available since the end of Fiscal Year 2007.

Labor Secretary Gil M. San Nicolas and Deputy Secretary Cinta M. Kaipat said this happened because the federal ombudsman sought control over certain Labor functions through the exercise of financial control over grant funds.

Benedetto was the federal ombudsman at the time. Last year, he moved to the U.S. Attorney's Office as a prosecutor.

"The proposed conditions on the availability of grant funds, to be controlled by the ombudsman, amounted to a serious conflict of interest or appearance of conflict because the ombudsman sponsors cases and claims within the Labor Department system," said San Nicolas and Kaipat in an annual report to the Legislature.

The two officials said Gov. Benigno R. Fitial rejected Benedetto's demands and substituted local funding for part of the withheld federal funds.

They said these federal funds have not yet been restored, but Labor has a pending application to avail of the funds.

The Labor officials pointed out that, unlike relations with other federal agencies, relations with Benedetto "were unsatisfactory during 2008."

Benedetto left the office in September 2008. To date, he has not been replaced.

With respect to their relationship with foreign agencies, San Nicolas and Kaipat said that in 2008, the Philippine Consulate General's staff was consulted on the new employer qualification reviews and visited hearings to see the new Labor processes in action.

They said Philippine Consul General Wilfredo Maximo was also consulted during the process of drafting Labor's revised employment regulations.

With respect to China, the Labor officials said, Labor coordinated with CEDA on matters affecting Chinese workers in the CNMI.

With Thailand, they said, the Department of Labor in Thailand sent a delegation to consult with Labor about workers from that country who are currently in the CNMI.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Six LMA students celebrate their mini-promotion exercise at the LMA campus. They are shown here with parents, school administrators, and LMA teacher Felisa Brel.

6 graduate from Lina'la' Melawa'sch Academy

The Lina'la' Melawa'sch Academy is an alternative school located at Hopwood Junior High. The candidates to this program are students who have exhausted the entire intervention program provided by Hopwood's main campus. Students who are ordered by the court to be in school are also referred to this program. This academy is also running a home school program.

Both LMA and home school are under the supervision of Felisa Brel, who has been with Hopwood Jr. High for 18 years. The school counselors—Ms. Mendoza, Ms. Blau, and Ms. Mobel—do not only provide counseling services but also conduct presentations on promoting one's self esteem, learning to make right choices, learning to cope with peer pressure, and more.

When school started this year, the program had 11 students but this soon went up to 20. Toward the end of the second quarter the number dropped because four were placed under home school.

On Jan. 30, six LMA students celebrated their mini-promotion exercise held at the LMA campus with parents, school administrators, and LMA teacher Brel. These six students' hard work and commitment to their education enabled them to move up to high school.

"For you, my six special people, 'Aim high, heaven is the limit,'" said Brel. ***(PR)***

Samuel C. Lo, O.D., M.D.

Laser and Eye Surgery Center

Dr. Samuel C. Lo is pleased
to announce his affiliation with the
Hardt Eye Clinic.

Dr. Lo received his ophthalmology training at the world renowned New York Eye and Ear Infirmary and followed by a retina fellowship at the Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York. He specializes in the treatment of retinal disease including Diabetic eye disease, Macular degeneration, Retinal detachment, Cataract and Glaucoma. Dr. Lo returns to Saipan every few months to offer "**Advanced Eye Care**" to the people of Saipan.

Dr. Lo will be in Saipan beginning February 16, 2009 for one week.
Medicare, Medicaid and most insurance are accepted.

Appointments can be made by calling Hardt Eye Clinic (670) 235-2030, the Laser and Eye Surgery Center (808) 949-2000 or by email at drsamuello@yahoo.com.

AFTER 23 YEARS ON SAIPAN

Worker wants to be reunited with family in RP

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A foreign worker who has been on Saipan for 23 years is appealing for help to be reunited with his family whom he hasn't seen since 1986.

Victoriano J. Cernal, now 65, said he has six children—Jun, Jen, Jane, Jenny, Jomar and Vicmar—in the Philippines but they have not spoken to him for years.

His last telephone conversation with them was in 2004.

Cernal said he has been sending mails to his family's last known address but he has not received a single letter from them. His phone calls have also been unanswered.

Cernal said his house is located in front of Villa Regina Condominium at the Divine Mercy Compound in Pasig City, Metro Manila.

Anyone who may be able to help Cernal reunite with his children is asked to call (670) 234 0780, care of Mayeth and Tony.

Cernal, who is known to many as "Mang Vic," came to Saipan in 1986 to work as a carpenter for $1.50 an hour. He now works as a farmer.

He didn't want to say how he ended up not visiting his children since he left the Philippines in 1986, and said he is not angry with them.

Ronnie Doca, president of the Pilipino Contract Workers Association, Pilcowa, brought the story of Cernal to the Philippine media's attention last year.

He hopes that a renewed focus on Cernal's story will help him finally be able to communicate with his family this year.

"We hope he'll be able to talk with his children and eventually be able to go back home to them. He's already old and I think that's his wish before something happens to him," said Doca.

Cernal lives in a red tin house in Chalan Piao all by himself. He did not marry the mother of his six children back home.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Free workshop on detecting fake money

The United States Secret Service will be conducting a workshop on detecting counterfeit cash and other monetary instruments this Wednesday, Feb. 11.

The workshop, which will be held at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce conference room, will be from 9am to 11am or 1om to 3pm.

This free workshop was initially open DPS and Chamber members but there are still some limited slots available to members of the public. Those who would like to attend may call the Chamber office (233-7150) as soon as possible to reserve a seat. ***(SCC)***

Live-fire training on Farallon

The Emergency Management Office and U.S. Naval Force Marianas Guam announced Friday that the U.S. military would be conducting live-fire training (36 OSS and Cope North) on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla on Feb. 9-13, 2009, from 7am to 6pm.

The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla Training Area on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is strongly advising the public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and date indicated.

For more information, contact the EMO Operations Section at 322-9528 and 322-9528, VHF Marine CHNL 16 and F Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. ***(EMO)***

ACT membership meeting today

The Association of Commonwealth Teachers will hold a general membership meeting today, Feb. 9, 2009, at 6pm, at the San Vicente Elementary School cafeteria. Agenda includes the election of new officers and promotional offer for double stamps available to teachers through Shell Marianas.

New license plates are here

The Department of Public Safety Bureau of Motor Vehicle is informing all private citizens and businesses with temporary vehicle license plates to come into BMV to obtain their official license plates. Shipments of the official plates have already arrived. Individuals must turn in their temporary license plates along with their vehicle registration prior to obtaining their official license plates. For more information, call the BMV at 664-9066/8/9. ***(PR)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-MOS-038
(1/26/09)

SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRUARY 26, 2009 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"SUGAR KING ESTATE CONCESSIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF SAIPAN"

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED ON **FEBRUARY 13, 2009**, AT **9:30 A.M. AT THE SUGAR KING ESTATE IN GARAPAN, SAIPAN.**

ANY QUESTIONS OR INQUIRIES REGARDING THIS RFP SHOULD BE ADDRESSED AND HAND DELIVERED TO **MS. BERNIE ITIBUS** AT THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, AT AFETNAS SQUARE IN SAN ANTONIO NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON ON **FEBRUARY 16, 2009.**

/s/ JUAN B. TUDELA
MAYOR OF SAIPAN

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NELLY DLC. BUMANGLAG, Plaintiff, vs. LINDA DLC. TOVES, CONSOLACION DLC. TOVES, ANA C. DELA CRUZ, ANTONIO C. DELA CRUZ, RAMON C. DELA CRUZ, JOSEPHINE P. DELA CRUZ, and the Estate of MANUEL T. DELA CRUZ, Deceased, Defendant. — CIVIL ACTION NO. 00-275 — NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a judgement issued by the Court in this matter on January 26, 2009, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants the Estate of Manuel T. Dela Cruz in and to the following property: Tract No. 21729, situated in I-Denmi, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 46,660 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2038/72, registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 7912, dated January 23, 1979.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, March 6, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 3rd day of February, 2009.

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**
Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, vs. ANTONIA URUMELOG, Defendant. — CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-424 — FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuan to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on December 22, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot 010 K 225, situated in Dandan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 920 square meters more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 010 K 01 dated Augusts 19, 1987, Commonwealth Recorders's File No. 87-2909, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, March 6, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 2nd day of February, 2009.

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**
Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. JOSEPH S. CAMACHO Defendant. — **Civil Action No. 08-0427** — **AMENDED SUMMONS**

TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT JOSEPH S. CAMACHO

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitled action in the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Bank of Guam, and serve a copy of your answer upon Robert Tenorio Torres, attorney for the Plaintiff Bank of Guam, at **Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.o. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950**; and in case of failure to do so, judgement will be rendered against you according to the demand of the COMPLAINT, which has been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So **ORDERED** this 14th day of January 2009.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

/s/ Clerk of Court

IN CONCERT

John Willard Dimalanta wants to express his appreciation to all who supported him in his concert called "John Willard in Concert: A Magical Dream Comes True," held Jan. 4, 2009, at the IBPC Multi-Purpose Hall. "I would like to thank God, my beloved parents, Fernando and Rowena Dimalanta, for their love and support and to the sponsors, which include IT&E, Jollibee, Star Water, McDonald's, Hollywood Theather, Mobil (Middle Road), Uncle Ben Studio, Project Impact, Lilian King, Mrs. Fe Ngalungalu. Mr. and Mrs. Lito Asuncion, all my godparents, and to all supportive parents of Uncle Ben's Studio and all of Uncle Ben's Kids: Shaina Heart Dimalanta, Nikki, Erika, Mikaela Cunanan, Demalyn, Britney, Robby Shorre, Donna Galvez, Mat Moran, Danice, Joseph. Leslie, John Jacob, and John Gilier."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

February 9, 2001

700 workers duped in another savings scam

A busload of angry garment factory workers trooped to the Department of Public Safety yesterday to complain against the owner of Long City Traders Corp. who allegedly ran off with hundreds of thousands of dollars they entrusted in exchange for a "bigger'" interest rate. This is the second time in less than a month that a group of Chinese garment workers complained to DPS of being victimized by perpetrators of this savings scam. At least 45 workers earlier came forward to sue a couple who allegedly collected from them over $100,000 on a promise that their investment will double in just two months. DPS said the suspect, identified as Kwan Y. Chung, 53, one of the shareholders of Long City Traders, is now the subject of a manhunt, but sources believed the suspect has fled the island.

Teno shoots down 'shooting resort' bill

Amid concerns over safety of the islands to both residents and tourists, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday vetoed legislation seeking to ease tough gun control law in the CNMI to cater to so-called "shooting resorts" proposed by Korean investors. He said he could not compromise public safety over economic benefit of the measure despite assurances by proponents that use of these high-caliber weapons would be tightly guarded and restricted within the proposed resorts. "Although the bill was aimed at boosting our ailing economy, this is not the type of development supported by our private sector or by our citizens," the governor said in his veto message.

February 9, 2002

Torres wants GAO to study impact of CIP program

Since 1979, the federal government has pumped in more than half-a-billion dollars—or $657.16 million—into the CNMI under the Covenant Section 702 program, yet the question remains whether the original goals of the funding program has been met. In line with this, Rep. William S. Torres will ask the General Accounting Office of the US Congress to conduct a study to see the extent of the impact the program may have had on the Commonwealth and to verify whether the original intent of the program has been achieved. "What is needed here is to look at the original intent of Article VII, Section 702 [of the Covenant] and see how this assistance from the US has improved government operations and the capital improvement programs and how it has promoted economic development," said Torres.

Adriano: Lift hiring ban but raise minimum wage

Sen. Joaquin G. Adriano says he will support the lifting of the moratorium on the hiring of nonresident workers, provided that certain conditions are met. Adriano, who will be the Senate Floor Leader in the 13th Legislature, said the ban on the hiring of new nonresident workers-Public Law 11-6-may be lifted on the condition that the CNMI minimum wage is raised to US mainland standards. "The minimum wage should be raised to somewhere around $4.10 to $4.25 per hour. In that way, we can attract our own people to go and work in the private sector," he said Currently, the CNMI's minimum wage is pegged at $3.05.

February 9, 2003

Inaction on wage cut plan threatens govt payroll

Government paychecks and retirement pensions have a very distinct possibility of not reaching government workers and retirees in the near future if the move to cut government wages through work-hour reduction continues to be stalled. House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider made the forecast yesterday, still disappointed over the failure of the proposed Retirement Protection Act of 2003 to make it past the House of Representatives. The House majority voted Monday to thumb down House Bill 13-242 or the measure proposing to cut government work by an hour daily in order to save money for the payment of staggering retirement obligations and overdue tax rebates and refunds.

'Abolish rebate, refund systems'

Faced with dwindling resources and undue delays in the release of rebate and refund checks, it would make better sense for the Legislature to just pass a law that would abolish the refunds and the rebates systems altogether. Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes stressed this, even as he pointed out that, with the CNMI government's dire fiscal straits being no secret, suing it to collect on the $92 million it owes the Fund would be an exercise in futility at this point in time. Reyes said that, by doing away with the rebate and refund system, the revenue the government acquires from income taxes could be used to settle some of its obligations.

NMI to get $60K in publicity with media visits

The CNMI is set to receive an estimated $60,000 in publicity after two familiarization tours by Korean media outlets over the next couple weeks.

Hankook Ilbo reporter Sung-Won Lee arrived on Saipan Friday to experience the island and prepare a feature article for the daily newspaper, one of Korea's major national papers with a circulation of a million readers.

Hankook Ilbo is anticipated to promote the Northern Marianas as a family travel destination. Lee's visit to Saipan is expected to include an island tour, snorkeling and underwater sea walking off Managaha Island, a monster truck off-road adventure, an evening of shopping at DFS Galleria, and jet skiing or parasailing. The reporter will stay at Saipan World Resort and also have time to enjoy the resort's water park during his tour before his departure tomorrow, Feb. 3.

"We are fortunate to have *Hankook Ilbo* see value in the Northern Marianas as a tourist destination and give us widespread publicity," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio. "While fewer Koreans—and tourists worldwide—are visiting long-haul destinations during this economic downturn, the Northern Marianas still offers a close vacation option."

On Tuesday, Korean monthly magazine *Tour de Monde* will send editors Eun-Gee Kim and Ju-Eun Bae to experience the Northern Mariana Islands for six days and write a feature article to increase awareness of the islands. The trip will involve an island tour and lodge at Rota Resort and Country Club, where they will also inspect the golf course. On Tinian they will have another island tour and stay at the world-class Tinian Dynasty Resort & Casino. On Saipan they will spend a morning of fun in the sun at Managaha Island, tour the island, and enjoy the water park and accommodations of Saipan World Resort.

Since the first publication in 1996, *Tour De Monde* has been highly recognized as a unique travel guidebook for people who love to travel. With a circulation of 50,000 readers, the magazine features vivid stories about various cities, people, cultures, festivals, and food around the globe.

The familiarization tour is supported by Saipan World Resort, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, and Rota Resort and Country Club, providing accommodation and meals; Mode Tour, providing discount airfare to Rota; KPS Corp., providing a discounted rate on the off-road adventure tour; and Tasi Tour, providing free Managaha Ferry transportation and snorkeling gear rental. ***(MVA)***

Friends of the Crime Lab outlines plans for 2009

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The board of directors and Judiciary honorary board members of the Friends of the Crime Lab. They are, from left, Ray Souza, legal counsel; Frank Ishizaki, Homeland Security adviser-honorary adviser; Sharon Ishizaki, secretary/treasurer; Maureen N. Maratita, vice president; Joseph D. Lopez Sr., president; Chief Justice Robert Torres; and Chief Justice F. Philip Carbullido.

GUAM—Friends of the Crime Lab, Inc. a registered 501(c) 3, has released its strategic plan for 2009.

Its goals for the coming year are to identify fundraising targets and solidify efforts to raise the $5 million needed to build the capacity of the Crime Lab to include DNA, Toxicology, and other equipment and training.

It also intends to host a Regional Forensic Science Symposium in November 2009.

Joey Lopez, Sr., President of Friends of the Crime Lab said, "To date the board has set the framework for the organization, made significant progress with courtesy calls to relevant stakeholders, and set the direction for 2009."

"We are working with the Judiciary, our elected officials, the Guam Police Department and our educational institutions as well as with crime lab and crime prevention experts to continue to pinpoint where we can best direct our energies.

"Our program reflects the needs of the community and is designed to support the newly constructed Crime Lab which is due to open in the near future. Thanks to former senator Frank Ishizaki, advisor to the board; we have made contact around the region and in the U.S. Mainland to set the wheels in motion for a symposium to identify forensic needs in our area and how we can meet those needs."

Lopez said Friends of the Crime Lab has received favorable feedback on available grants and sources of funding it might apply for to further its stated aims, and was additionally deep into a writing a business plan.

"We are a fledgling organization that would prefer to channel our energies to straightforward and identified goals that we can reach this year."

For further questions or comments, contact Lopez at 888-5495 or joeydl@guam.net. ***(PR)***

Northrop Grumman Corporation is seeking candidates for the following positions:

SITE SUPERVISOR

The Northrop Grumman Technical Services Sector USCIS Program Application Support Center (ASC) Site Supervisor is responsible for the overall operation of the ASC and supervises part-time Biometrics Technician. This position is located in **Saipan - Northern Marianas Islands (United States)**, in a new office for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service. U.S. Citizenship required. Must be able to obtain DHS Security Clearance and pass credit and drug screens.

SALARY: **$13.55** per hour plus a $3.24 per hour Health & Welfare Benefit.

Send your resume to: **Freddie.Sudheimer@ngc.com**.

PART-TIME BIOMETRICS TECHNICIAN

The Northrop Grumman Technical Services Sector USCIS Program Application Support Center part-time Biometrics Technician will be responsible for immigrant biometrics capture. This position is located in **Saipan - Northern Marianas Islands (United States)**, in a new office for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service. U.S. Citizenship required. Must be able to obtain DHS Security Clearance and pass credit and drug screens.

SALARY: **$11.28** per hour plus a $3.24 per hour Health & Welfare Benefit.

Send your resume to: **Freddie.Sudheimer@ngc.com**.

For all current opportunities, please visit our website:
careers.northropgrumman.com

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Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. is a subsidiary of Exxon Mobil Corporation, the world's leading petroleum and petrochemical company. Exxon Mobil Corporation and subsidiary companies (collectively "ExxonMobil") have operations throughout the world. This is your opportunity to join this dynamic company and become part of the team that thrives in a fast-paced and controls-oriented environment.

Mobil is seeking to appoint an experienced and qualified individual to fill the position of Bulk Plant Superintendent in Tinian as follows:

Bulk Plant Superintendent – Tinian

As part of the Customer Service function, this role will manage and execute operational activities related to the distribution, handling and storage of products marketed by Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. in Tinian within the guidance of the corporate safety, health and environmental policies/procedures and government regulatory requirements.

You will be responsible for conducting business transactions within the framework of company "Standards of Business Conduct" and government statutory compliance requirements. Compliance with regulatory and corporate "Safety, Health and Environment" policies and guidelines is an important requirement for this role.

As the Bulk Plant Superintendent, you will be initiating and implementing process efficiencies which will improve operational economies and contribute positively towards financial results.

Skills and Experience required include:

- Supervisory skills and effective interpersonal skills to work with a diverse operating workforce, consultants, contractors, regulators and customers
- Relevant BS degrees from an accredited university
- Successful work experience with inland and marine operations, storage, handling and distribution standards
- Experience in petroleum, oil, and distribution project works is highly desirable but not essential.

This position will be based at the Tinian Bulk Plant in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Remuneration will be commensurate with the successful applicant's relevant skills and experience.

****

If you believe you have the qualities required for this position, please e-mail your resume to **katrina.terlaje@exxonmobil.com or fax to (671) 648-3786 by Friday, February 13, 2009.**

Federal law requires that we verify the identity and work eligibility of all new hires.
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Mr. Cheney's misimpression

"The United States needs to be not so much loved as it needs to be respected." So declared former vice president Dick Cheney in an interview this week with Politico. Cheney is right—which is why he should be apologizing rather than defending the extreme Bush administration policies on detention and interrogation that he championed.

Cheney asserted that the administration's antiterrorism policies may have been unpopular but were necessary, and he offered sweeping and unverifiable pronouncements about their effectiveness. "If it hadn't been for what we did—with respect to the terrorist surveillance program or enhanced interrogation techniques for high-value detainees, the Patriot Act and so forth—then we would have been attacked again," Cheney claimed.

Characteristically self-assured, Cheney perpetuated the myth that abiding by the rule of law puts the country in danger. In a thinly veiled attack on the Obama administration, he scoffed at those who are "more concerned about reading the rights to an al-Qaida terrorist than they are with protecting the United States against people who are absolutely committed to do anything they can to kill Americans." This is not only a mischaracterization of President Obama's position, it is a false choice.

The Bush administration deserves credit for shepherding the United States through seven years without another attack, but it may be decades before information is declassified that could shed light on whether this can be attributed to such practices as waterboarding and the lawless detention of suspected terrorists at Guantanamo Bay. Indeed, military and intelligence officials from Republican and Democratic administrations have suggested that they probably cannot, and they have repeatedly argued that traditional intelligence-gathering techniques are sufficient to thwart the kinds of attacks Cheney warns against. They have also stressed that the coercive techniques advanced by Cheney produce unreliable information from prisoners desperate to avoid further agony.

Most profoundly, Cheney fails to recognize the damage these policies have done to the country's reputation at large. They have alienated even once-stalwart allies, and they have played into the hands of terrorist leaders, who use the sordid images from Abu Ghraib and tales of abuse at secret CIA prisons overseas as political ammunition to recruit the next wave of suicide bombers and foot soldiers. Thanks to Cheney and his allies, global respect for the United States is at a low point. Part of the mission of preventing attacks must be to repair that damage.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post

Obama's plan to computerize health records may cost over $50 billion...
...and that's just for this one family...
MOM OF SIX GIVES BIRTH TO OCTUPLETS!
MARGULIES
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H+H+H = Success

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

The other day I got to thinking about why many students do not succeed in the workplace even after graduating from college or other specialized training, I realized that something crucial must be missing. The longer I thought about this, the clearer the answer came. As a result of this insight into a major problem, the Northern Marianas Trades Institute now has a more secure road to success for its students.

All students at the NMTI are now being taught the three H's—Head, Heart, and Hand. By combining these three elements a student will become a more rounded and complete student. It works this way.

Whenever we teach a skill, we teach how to use the hands. But we must also teach how to use the head because the head will direct the hands and make the student understand why he is performing any act. However a man needs more than a skill using his hands and head.

He must also feel that what he is doing has merit to himself and to the customer. The heart will remind the worker that he must not only do a job but do it well and with pride. Unless a worker feels, thinks and practices his skills—the three H's in harmony, he will remain a robot practicing robotic movements.

Look at our own work habits. After many years on the same job, what is our thinking and feeling about what we are doing? Do we think about the value of what we are doing? Do we seek improvements in our work skills or work place? Or are we just going through the movements and go to work daily begrudgingly. The only goal we seem to have is salvation day—"retirement day," after 20 years at a job we have come to despise.

Look at the word: retirement. It means to withdraw from circulation from one's position, occupation or view. We put ourselves out to pasture merely to stand as cows complacently chewing their curd. What a sad commentary on our life achievement.

I am writing these comments not to criticize but in the hope that we open our eyes to see that we have greater potentials than we realize. Many times I ask people what books they have read the past year. I get a blank stare. Then I ask how many magazines they read weekly or monthly. Which are they? Again a blank stare. What new vocabulary words have we learned? Then I ask the person what has he or she done to improve his/her work skills or personal skills. Too often I receive a blank stare again.

There was an interesting question asked of me the other day. How many of the almost 5,000 government employees are college graduates? I never thought of that before so I could not answer. But now I am curious. What percentage of government workers are college graduates? Hmmm. Anybody know?

A new program at the NMTI that will start in few weeks is the Adult Education program or GED. This program will allow students to complete their high school studies and receive their high school diploma.

The Northern Marianas College has agreed to send one or more of their instructors to teach the course at NMTI. We are grateful for that. This will enhance the students' study. To date we have over 25 students enrolled. This is an example of training for a skill and training the head to think. Meanwhile we will also keep stressing the heart for pride and an honest work ethic. We must educate the whole man.

It is obvious that I am a nut about learning. Even at my age I am still studying and curious to know. A long time ago someone said to me that learning means change. When we learn something we change our attitude and or behavior. What have you been learning?

Let me digress a bit and discuss the fear that many businesses have because of the impending approach of federalization. The greatest fear is that we lack the necessary manpower to fill all the positions that will become vacant. This is a myth. Think about the following.

First of all we have almost 5,000 government workers that could be scaled down to about 1,000 people. The remaining 4,000 can easily be absorbed into the local labor force.

We also have over 8,000 people on the food stamp program. At least 4,000 or more can be trained for the labor market. Thus far we have about 8,000 able bodied people. Add to that about another 2,000 young people looking for jobs. Add to that the number that come back from college and split back to the mainland because we shut them out of good jobs that have been given to nonresident workers.

Let's add up: 4,000+4000+2,000+500=10,500 potential workforce.

Add to that about 600 per year high school graduating students. Thus by 2014, we should have approximately 600 X 5= 3,000 more. This gives us a total of about 13,000 to 14,000 local labor force.

All we have to do is change our attitude toward work and learning a skill and/or a trade. We must also stop thinking that locals are lazy and undependable. They are not. Think of all the money that will stay and circulate in our community. Think of the pride we will feel as we work with our hands. We will also be able to lessen our

See SUCCESS on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Telling it like it is: What a shame!

By WILLIAM H. STEWART
Special to the Saipan Tribune

William H. Stewart is an economist, historian, and military cartographer.

On Feb. 6 an article appeared in this paper titled "Saipan's collapse fastest in U.S. history" and mentioned an online video presentation by Adam Yamaguchi concerning a capsulated historical account of the islands' military and economic history. If you haven't see this visual record of a portion of the island of Saipan and then pondered the impression the economic situation made on a very talented producer, I suggest you do so to learn how some people now see the NMI. It's a message going out to potential investors as well. The documentary, which runs for 25 minutes, can be accessed at http://current.com/users/Adam_Yamaguchi/all/0.htm.

ON THE NET
http://current.com/users/Adam_Yamaguchi/all/0.htm

The most shocking impression for me to witness was the visual presentation of the current condition of what was once probably the most attractively designed tourist shopping mall between Hawaii and Asia. The La Fiesta Mall was truly a first-class facility. No more.

When watching the video I couldn't believe my eyes that the CNMI, as the present owner of the San Roque facility, or what's left of it, would have ever let the buildings fall into such abandoned, deteriorated, decrepit and neglected condition. It's ruined—and a pile of useless debris facing one of the island's most beautiful hotels. What an eyesore greeting the hotel's guests!

The government's neglect in instigating cleanup efforts has contributed to the slum appearance of certain areas of the island. Never mind that the former occupants of the facilities have left their dirty linen and junk behind; it should be cleaned up by someone and that leaves either the landowner or the government since such an expense should have been anticipated and factored into the lease payments if private, or the BGRT or user fees if government-owned.

To have permitted the complete disintegration of the structure to occur is shocking, disgraceful and dumb—Third World dumb!

If you are on island, go out and take a look at a tragic mess. Look at the bones of the NMI's economic future. The mall provides a visual metaphor for what's in store for the islands if something isn't done to reverse the slide and change the mentality—something which should have been everybody's business in the past but instead became nobody's business when projecting a positive resort image for that area of Saipan.

Was it so difficult for the responsible government agency to have the institutional vision to foresee what would happen to an empty structure left unattended and without adequate maintenance and left to decay as a result of the ravenous vultures of a tropical atmosphere? Didn't anyone in government or the Legislature think to assign a watchman or guard to protect the once beautiful and valuable asset against vandals and copper thieves? Didn't they ever consider that a modicum of a budget would be needed to arrest rust, mold, leaks and all other eroding and damaging atmospheric elements and protect the property from the wrath of graffiti wielding morons?

I fear what happened to the structure is a harbinger for what is to be the economic future of the NMI. I would certainly hope not but I see no evidence to think otherwise.

What has occurred to Saipan over these past few years is simply unbelievable. What a great pity! Sorry to have to put it this way but someone has to tell it like it is.

When the government acquired the San Roque property, presumably for use by the college, the visibly tragic result has been a multimillion dollar facility left to rot and decay. Shame on you legislators and government officials—all of you—for letting this deplorable condition to occur.

I would hope every school classroom will take a field trip to witness the results of government inaction and sheer indifference to the future of island youth, now clearly manifested in this one lamentable example of government neglect.

I hope I don't hear the lame excuse, "There were few tourists, business was poor and it just fell into ruin." Hello, there were no tourists when the government bought it; that's the reason it was for sale! If it had not been purchased by the government and was still owned by the Japanese, I'll wager it would have been maintained at least at a minimum level even if empty of tenants. They are not stupid. They know how to care for valuable assets.

There is a strange phenomena that occurs to many people when something or some condition is present on a daily basis in their lives and sub-conscience: they very soon tend not see what is occurring. This mental "freeze-up" takes place when the unusual becomes the usual even before one realizes it and, indeed, if it is ever realized, it's often too late to effect positive change.

While its too late to help the mall, it's still only five minutes to midnight to turn the economy around, hopefully with some form of federal assistance. An economic cancer is killing that beautiful island and someone or some group had better have the knowledge, skill, ability and desire to effectively tell the story to the U.S. Congress in an attempt to obtain the assistance to reverse the decline.

> *I fear what happened to the [La Fiesta Mall] is a harbinger for what is to be the economic future of the* NMI. *I would certainly hope not but I see no evidence to think otherwise.*

There is very much a need to present all the pertinent facts, good and bad, to Congress so that they can be viewed with maximum comprehension in a minimum amount of time. As important as local economic issues are to those in the CNMI, they are far less so on the national agenda with a Congress facing a national economic meltdown. So the CNMI story must be brief, complete, well presented and, above all, convincing of the need for the deserving of assistance and quick.

It's very much a "sales task" built around a presentation designed so that members of Congress, rather than being dependent only upon "hearing what is said," must be made to "see what is meant."

That can only be accomplished as Confucius advised several thousand years ago. The dire situation with the economy must be explained and supported with photographs, diagrams, maps, charts and statistics—all of which are the basic tools needed to tell the story effectively and gain a sympathetic hearing. It's a matter of educating and influencing. Get it right.

Having been an active participant in the Trust Territory's Education for Self Government program during the period when the various political status positions were being explored by the Micronesian islands, I recall the United States was very much interested in engendering a close political relationship with the CNMI. More so than with the other islands—and at the time—much to the chagrin of the visiting Soviet delegate of the U.N.'s visiting missions. Also, there always seemed to be a military presence on the American negotiating team.

So, in my judgment from the very beginning the U.S. considered the islands to be of some strategic value, either active or alternately to deny their use to some other power. If that's still true, and I believe it is, their military strategic and geopolitical value should be pointed out to members of Congress, many of whom will not have the slightest knowledge of that period of history. We all know many in Congress could probably pin the tail on a donkey blindfolded with greater ease than find Saipan on a map.

So, what's the point of it all? Just this: We don't want another La Fiesta type "screw-up" with getting the message across to Congress. Get it right.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Time seems to stop at the abandoned La Fiesta Mall in San Roque.

Editor's Note: The author was a resident of Saipan for more than 30 years dating from the Trust Territory period in 1970. As the author of several investment books, tourist maps and more than 250 "op-ed" economic articles, he is also a former business owner and economic consultant to the government, development banks and private investors in the CNMI, United States, Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. Google: saipanstewart.com

SUCCESS

From Page 10

dependency on handouts from the federal government.

Before you jump up and down and scream at me that our government cannot run with only 1,000 people, I read recently of one county outside Washington, D.C. that has an annual budget of 7 billion dollars and is controlled by one man with several hundred employees. Seven billion dollars! By the way this county is in the top 10 most affluent districts in America.

We have a grandiose budget of about $150 million annually which we are having trouble getting passed. I rest my case. We have become too much a welfare state. Something is wrong. Attitudes! Attitudes! Change them and we change the world.

We are next door to almost 1.5 billion people. We have not learned how to sell to that market. Also the United States needs us desperately as much as we need them. Yet we don't know how to play our trump ace in the game. Instead we cajole, argue, sue and do other non-productive things.

Look, I am not a guy that thinks he knows it all. However I know that I don't know. So I seek out people who know better than I do. This way I survive in various kinds of situations. We should be doing the same. Seek out the best minds and trust them to show us the way. This will eliminate the self-interest that plagues us.

It is a crime and a shame on all of us that we cannot solve our basic needs for a comfortable life in one of God's most beautiful gardens—the CNMI. We don't know how to supply electricity to our homes and businesses; we have given up trying to bring potable water to our homes; and we have a broken sewerage system.

Did you know that about several weeks ago, the sewerage plant in the southern part of the island broke down and allowed several millions of untreated sewerage water to flow directly into the lagoon? This was all hush-hush except for the fish and the swimmers that knew about it.

It is time to combine the Head + Heart + Hand into our daily life if we are ever to become whole again. Shouting at the top of our lungs: "These are our islands!" solves nothing. I don't argue with that statement. I merely state that we should be proud of them and cultivate them properly.

Think about this: Are we mentally poor? Or are we temporarily broke? If we are mentally poor, we will always remain poor because we so believe. If we are temporarily broke, then we can remedy the problems and become rich both in economics and in self-pride! Have a great day!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°

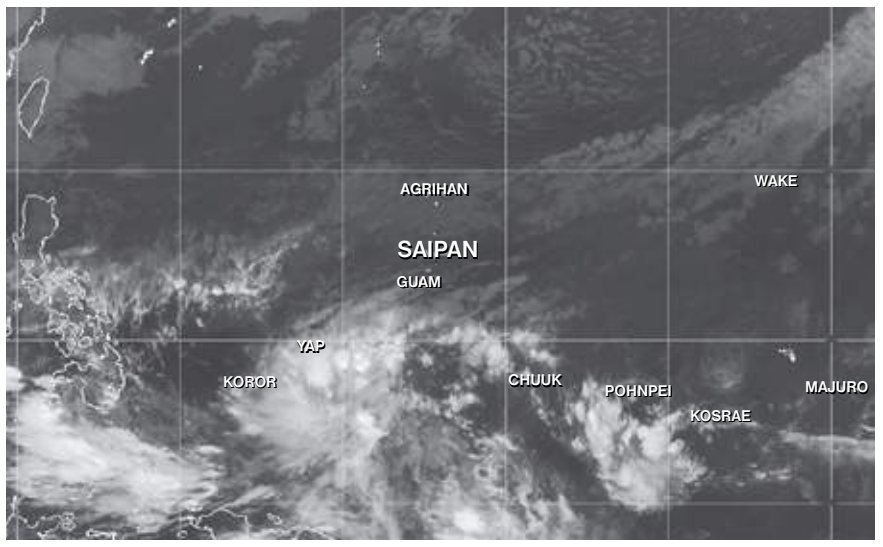
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲84	▼75
Palau	Rain	▲86	▼77
Yap	Rain	▲87	▼76
Chuuk	Rain	▲87	▼77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲86	▼76
Kosrae	Rain	▲84	▼81
Majuro	Cloudy	▲85	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲79	▼66
Beijing	Sunny	▲52	▼33
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲76	▼67
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲77	▼69
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲41	▼37
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	▲58	▼46
Manila	Rain	▲81	▼75
Melbourne	Partly Sunny	▲68	▼48
Miami	Sunny	▲77	▼65
New York	Sunny	▲40	▼27
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲54	▼42
Paris	Showers	▲38	▼35
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲49	▼39
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲51	▼44
Salem	Cloudy	▲45	▼34
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲52	▼42
Seoul	Cloudy	▲45	▼29
Tokyo	Partly Sunny	▲51	▼41
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲47	▼29

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, SUNDAY, FEB. 8, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N165E to 19N160E then continues as a shear line to beyond 130E at 12N. Cloudiness and scattered light showers are found along and up to 200 miles north of this boundary. A near-equatorial trough extends southeastward from 5N130E to 2N140E then turns northeastward to a surface circulation centered near 3N144E then continues southeastward to end at EQ145E. Another trough extends northeastward from the circulation to 8N146E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with these features are occurring south of Yap and Palau between the equator and 6N from 130E to 145E. Upper-level divergence coupled with low-level convergence are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Chuuk within 80 miles of a line from 9N148E to 9N153E. Low-level convergent winds are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Kosrae between 2N and 5N from 160E to 170E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:19 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
8:18 AM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
1:45 PM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
6:51 PM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:44 AM	6:19 PM
Tuesday	6:44 AM	6:19 PM
Wednesday	6:43 AM	6:19 PM
Thursday	6:43 AM	6:20 PM
Friday	6:43 AM	6:20 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:59 PM	6:08 AM
Tuesday	6:59 PM	6:55 AM
Wednesday	7:56 PM	7:39 AM
Thursday	8:50 PM	8:19 AM
Friday	9:43 PM	8:59 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2009

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota			
CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7
Saipan-Guam			
CO9317	5:00am	5:50am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	2,3,4,5,6
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily
Saipan-Narita			
NW 099	5:00am	7:35am	Daily
NW 078	8:20am	1:30pm	2,3,4,5,6,7
NW 075	4:55pm	7:30pm	Daily
Guam-Narita			
NW 73	4:10pm	7:00pm	Daily
NW 81	3:55pm	6:55pm	Daily
Saipan-Osaka			
OZ 119	4:00am	6:40am	1,4,6
NW 083	4:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
Guam-Osaka			
NW 79	4:45pm	7:35pm	Daily
Saipan-Nagoya			
NW 078	8:20am	11:05am	Daily
Guam-Nagoya			
NW 23	4:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
Saipan-Incheon			
OZ 604	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:40am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 119	4:00am	11:25am	1,4,6 via Osaka
OZ 606	3:20pm	7:00pm	Daily
Saipan-Busan			
OZ 608	3:20am	6:50am	1,4,5,7
Saipan-Shanghai			
FM 844	2:50am	5:40am	2,6
Rota-Guam			
CO 9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1,7
Guam-Palau			
CO 953	7:40pm	8:40pm	1,7
CO 893	5:50pm	6:50pm	3,5
Palau-Manila			
CO 893	7:35pm	9:10pm	3,5
Guam-Manila			
CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3,5 via Koror
CO 933	8:00pm	9:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:50am	1,2,4,6,7
Nagoya-Manila			
NW 71	8:40pm	11:55pm	Daily
Incheon-Hongkong			
OZ 721	9:20am	12:00pm	Daily
OZ 723	7:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
OZ 7173	8:00pm	10:50pm	5,7
Narita-Manila			
NW 1	7:00pm	10:55pm	Daily

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan			
CO 9598	3:25am	4:00am	5,6
Guam-Saipan			
CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	1,2,3,4,7
CO9598	2:30am	4:00am	5,6 via Rota
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
Narita-Saipan			
NW 076	10:15am	2:40pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:20am+1	2,3,4,5,6,7
NW 100	8:45pm	1:10am+1	Daily
Narita-Guam			
NW 74	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
NW 82	10:30am	3:10pm	Daily
Osaka-Saipan			
OZ 120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	3,5,7
NW 084	10:40am	3:05pm	Daily
Osaka-Guam			
NW 80	10:30am	3:00pm	Daily
Nagoya-Saipan			
NW 077	9:00pm	1:20am+1	Daily
Nagoya-Guam			
NW 24	10:00am	2:30pm	Daily
Incheon-Saipan			
OZ 605	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ 120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	3,5,7 via Osaka
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6
Busan-Saipan			
OZ 607	9:00pm	2:10am+1	3,4,6,7
Shanghai-Saipan			
FM 843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1,5
Guam-Rota			
CO 9598	2:30am	3:00am	5,6
Palau-Guam			
CO 954	2:30am	5:25am	1,2
CO 892	2:35am	5:30am	4,6
Manila-Palau			
CO 892	10:10pm	1:50am+1	3,5
Manila-Guam			
CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3,5 via Koror
CO 934	11:10pm	4:40am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:10pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7
Manila-Nagoya			
NW 72	6:30am	11:05am	Daily
Hongkong-Incheon			
OZ 724	12:30am	4:50am	Daily
OZ 7183	12:45am	5:05am	1,4,6
OZ 722	1:30pm	5:45pm	Daily
Manila-Narita			
NW 2	7:45am	12:40pm	Daily

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Letter to the Editor

Happy teachers, happy students?

The current newsletter of the ***YES!*** Magazine put out by the Kortens, she of the Ford Foundation and he of the *When Corporations Ruled the World* fame, used the above title for a theme. This, of course, is a no-brainer and I am sure school systems around the world are cognizant of this truism. Happy teachers make happy students!

The reverse is equally true: unhappy students make for unhappy teachers. Of late, I have had a few unhappy students. So I was at the fork of unclarity, figuring out who got unhappy first.

As humans are prone to do, in the horn of a dilemma, one looks to blame the other guy. It is easy to identify the ADHD-types, the loquacious and super mobile kids, who would rip off your ears with gab, and whose movements, were it convertible to energy, would drive CUC out of business! They definitely do not fit in Mr. V's class!

Being one who does not settle at the objective-verifiable level of data, "where life-happens-to-me," I swing over to where "I-happen-to-life"—sort out my reflective data that are my psychological and intellectual impressions, my interpretive analysis that is in dialogue with current social wisdom, and my decisional conclusions that bears the ethical imperatives that fuels one's living. Voila! I discovered that neither does Mr. V fit in the classroom of my students' familiarity.

Neither one is to be blamed for the situation. Consider a couple of realities.

Take language learning, for instance. The much-quoted phrase, "From K to 3rd grade, students learn to read; from fourth grade onwards, students read to learn," was probably coined elsewhere where the language learned on Mama's weaning ministrations is the same language in question. People learn their primary language by listening and speaking first, then proceed to reading and writing. From Mama's cooing and feeding in the warmth and comfort of her bosom comes the formation of language. When one heard one language and suddenly has to learn another by reading and writing it, the subsequent learning spells confusion. Such is the state of our English language development.

Add Susie's famous preschool complaint and we have a behavioral contradiction. "For as long as I can remember, adults kept encouraging me to form words, with the whole household going gaga when I finally made the sound of 'dada' and 'ma-ma.' But as soon as I lined up in school, I was told to be quiet. And when there are 20 of us talking simultaneous, it did not take long for the teacher to shout out, 'Shut Up!'"

Our school has Direct Instructions first thing in the morning. It must be of Teutonic origin transported to Maryland where Hitler's group of scientists decided to continue their research and justify their existence in another facility flying a different flag, but still coldly run like Buchenwald. When the pedagogy was first demonstrated to me, it was by a drill sergeant snapping her fingers at German shepherd dogs! What passes for reading is a monotone voice of an orchestrated herd where the loud screams louder and the quiet ones sheepishly hide under the cacophony of unleashed uninhibited throats.

Language learning is heard first in normal human discourse. But now, when the teacher talks, no one listens. Talking without listening has become the symbol of defiance against imposed authority. Consequently, of all the standardized tests, students invariably fail 'listening,' which, if it is any consolation, holds true nationally, regionally and locally. We do mimic well, and as one of my school mothers whispered during one of our parent-teacher meetings: "My daughters do speak English well with a Pampango accent!"

Today, adult language learning has rediscovered the natural way of language acquisition, and the Pimsleur or the Rosetta Stone methods that are widely favored by most public and private entities for crash language courses for their executives, instructs by learning how to listen first. Often, they do not even bother reading and writing because the phonetics follow, unless one is learning Sino-characters.

A change of subject: the screen saver that streams on my classroom computer screen reads: *"From a culture of domination, to a classroom of collaboration; from a society of competition, to practices of cooperation, one sixth grader at a time."* Unfortunately, that is not a majority sentiment. So here's the second reality.

The latest overlay of life understanding on these islands through Uncle Sam's strategic military trusteeship, and Nippon's Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere design in the previous century, have left us a strong Spartan tradition of the pedagogy of fear, and a well-cultivated culture of coercion and instructions by intimidation. Until President Obama's executive decree, the latter was allegedly widely practiced in Gitmo of the Caribs. That we do not wince at the methodology is shown by how one of our enterprising solons want the function moved into our shores!

If as published almost daily in our newspapers, some of our public leaders cannot help but let the venom of their bitterness spill quite easily into their discourse of vilification and condemnation of those who do not share their views. Why should it come then as a surprise if Johnny Angel and Barbie doll Annie in 5th grade, at the great turning into puberty, suddenly are transformed into Johnny the Daredevil and Annie the Witch (rhymes with?) on 6th grade?

A colleague who substituted for an absent teacher lamented the fact that he had to procure sweets for the children because the reward-and-punishment disciplinary scheme in the classroom required it. "Ah, it is worth it," he sighed, knowing that the measure would have, at best, temporary effect. My class finally behaved well at the library when they were offered 'pizza' if they exhibited acceptable behavior. The day after the reward was granted, we were back to normal, and the usual suspects were back to their ADHD-like performances.

In the contemporary rhetoric of willful assent and democratic suasion, we behave in the Abu Gharib of our minds!

A rabbi once said: "Never waste a crisis. It can be turned into joyful transformation." I told my class and colleagues at SVES that I have since reached my level of classroom incompetence, and added a little medical discomfort of partial disability plus the nagging and ongoing exploitation by the system of cheap pedagogue labor, it is just as well that we move on. Alas, as some had difficulties abiding by Mr. V's classroom procedures, it is evident that Mr. V had difficulties living up to their expectations as well.

As there is no rest for the "wicked," another colleague said: "With all your passion for learning and teaching," she dared, "why not run for the Board of Education." Quite a challenge and serendipitously, Galvin TG now aims to be a Louie, and Herman TG needs a sparring partner, so: "Why not, indeed?"

Jaime Vergara
via e-mail

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, vs. **RENATO G. AZUCENAS, JORGE M. MANALILI, DIONISIO P. GAMBOA, and EMON LODGE NO. 179,** Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 01-0363B** **AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION FOR CITY TRUST BANK SHARES**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby gives notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendant Renato G. Azucenas's City Trust Bank stock shares, in the following 215,644 shares of common stock in City Trust Bank, Inc., will be sold at an auction sale:

City Trust Bank, Inc Share Certificate #23;
City Trust Bank, Inc Share Certificate #28;
City Trust Bank, Inc Share Certificate #46;
City Trust Bank, Inc Share Certificate #52;
and
City Trust Bank, Inc Share Certificate #57

Notice is hereby given that the 215,644 shares to be sold at auction may be sold in accordance with the numbers of shares represented by each individual share certificate, or may be sold in smaller blocks of shares at CDA's discretion.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, February 27, 2009,** subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. NO MINIMUM BID.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of CDA as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, CDA shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a.) To withdraw the shares listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such shares is accepted.
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific shares are struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the shares listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Officer-In-Charge, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 234-7144; or to Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the aforementioned shares shall revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. CDA reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. Banking Licensing Requirements. Bidders should be advised that the total interest in City Trust Bank represented by the shares to be auctioned may represent five percent (5%) or more of the total shares in City Trust Bank. Purchase by any one bidder of an amount of shares equal to or exceeding five percent (5%) of the shares in City Trust Bank may subject such buyer and City Trust Bank to the requirements of 4 CMC §6226(e).
8. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the shares. Please contact CDA if you desire to schedule a viewing or inspection of the documents possessed by CDA. The interests in the shares are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the shares or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 20th day of January, 2009.

/S/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, vs. **DONALD G. FLORES, CECILIA U. FLORES, WILLIAM R. CONCEPCION, LILLIAN U. CONCEPCION, and ISLAND RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, INC.,** Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 98-506C** **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Donald G. Flores, Cecilia U. Flores, William R. Concepcion, Lillian U. Concepcion and Island Resources Development, Inc., in the following described real property situated in Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot H 468, 468A & Lot 439-7-2 (part of H-468, 468A & Lot 439)
Beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having plane rectangular coordinates of 47,004.35 meters North and 51,641.12 meters East of the Mariana Islands coordinate system of 1966.

Thence N 47º 24' 27" E, 56.10 meters to Corner 2;
Thence S 62º 33' 0" E, 103.62 meters to Corner 3;
Thence S 33º 30' 59" W, 70.82 meters to Corner 4;
Thence N 64º 05' 36" W, 116.68 meters to Corner 5;
Thence N 31º 09' 46" E, 20.88 meters to Corner 1, the point of beginning.

The above described property contains an area of 8,071 square meters, more or less, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, March 6, 2009,** subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Officer-In-Charge, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Donald G. Flores, Cecilia U. Flores, William R. Concepcion, Lillian U. Concepcion and Island Resources Development, Inc., in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 4th day of February 2009.

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, vs. **ESTATE OF GEORGE A. MANGLONA and KEIKO Y. MANGLONA,** Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 94-1108** **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants the estate of George A. Manglona and Keiko Y. Manglona in the lease of the following described real property situated in the CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 006 T 158 and containing an area of 1,178 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 006 T 05, dated September 28, 1983, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The Lease of Real Property is dated March 15, 1993 (File No, 93-795), with a term ending on October 26, 2042.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, March 6, 2009,** subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Officer-In-Charge, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the estate of George A. Manglona and Keiko Y. Manglona in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 4th day of February 2009.

/S/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

The Texter in Chief

By MATT BAI
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

Is a president with a BlackBerry on his belt really just like the rest of us? From the leaked e-mails of Barack Obama:

7:58 a.m.
To: Michelle Obama
From: BHO
In line at Starbucks. Oh wait, they're waving me to the front. Nice. More later.

9:02 a.m.
To: Rahm Emanuel
From: BHO
This meeting will not end. Seriously, look at Boehner. Why so tan? He's from Ohio. What gives?

9:41 a.m.
To: Hillary Clinton
From: BHO
I'm sprawled out on the Oval Office rug, just luxuriating. Thought u'd like to know. LOL.

10:33 a.m.
To: George W. Bush
From: BHO
U were right about the nuke codes gag. Joint Chiefs have zero sense of humor. Your move in online Scrabble, BTW.

12:14 p.m.
To: Michelle Obama
From: BHO
Stuck on Beltway. Oh wait, they're closing it 4 us. Nice. More later.

12:24 p.m.
To: Rick Wagoner
From: BHO
Loving this Caddy limo. But FYI, have u noticed the massive blind spot? Could lose a school bus in there. Never happens in a Honda.

12:57 p.m.
To: Sasha and Malia
From: BHO
I love u both, but for the last time, there ARE no ghosts in the White House. And just BTW, Jimmy Carter is still very much alive.

1:18 p.m.
To: Michelle Obama
From: BHO
In security line at Andrews. Guy with a huge head is getting the full cavity treatment. OMG, it's Larry Summers.

4:41 p.m.
To: Oprah Winfrey
From: BHO
Yes, White House chef can handle, tho not sure how acai fries will taste.

4:59 p.m.
To: Friends of Howard Dean
From: BHO
PLS remove me from this list. I've hit unsubscribe like 80 times.

5:59 p.m.
To: Rahm Emanuel
From: BHO
Dude, who's our Labor sec again? She's here and I cannot for the life of me remember her name.

9:28 p.m.
To: Robert Gates
From: BHO
Watching "24" and it has just gotten so lame. Where'd the FBI get all those toys? U and I both know they couldn't track a nursing home patient to the bathroom.

10:13 p.m.
To: George W. Bush
From: BHO
FYI, "talkation" is not a word. I challenged.

11:24 p.m.
To: Michelle Obama
From: BHO
U coming to bed soon? "Old School" is on HBO again. Will Farrell's about to jog naked.

3:01 a.m.
To: Hillary Clinton
From: BHO
Enuf with the 3 a.m. phone call. It's getting old.

Letters to the Editor

My buddy Stanley

How is everything up there on the hill with the good ol' boys? Hit a soft spot in my last letter to the editor about you, did I? Sorry about that. Too bad about Tina and her Villagomez resolution, though. Got dumped on again, did she? What's it going to take to learn not to buck you guys, huh? Young whippersnapper, gotta learn her place, you say. We'll get to her later but for now let's talk about me.

You stated "Lee Andersen" is a "false identity"? Golly, Stanley, are you in the early stages of dementia? Last I looked, my birth certificate states Lui Li (Lee) Andersen—from the Hawaiian clan of *Piliwale mois*, historically documented in the Bishop Museum through meles and chants about the kings and the queens who ruled over the islands of Maui, Oahu and Hawaii from the 8th century up to King Kamehameha's unification of the islands in the 1800s—is me. And for those who are close to me, they know Lee Andersen to be me. All this is spelled out in detail in my recently published novel, *Jihad! Holy War In Paradise*. And the name of one of the book's protagonist on the bottom in brilliant aqua block letters, is that of... you guessed it, Stanley, "Holani" as in "Smith". As for me being in a "closet"? You might want to pick up a copy or two; it's all there, simply to clear up those misconceptions that's rattling your cage.

Now let's get to the heart of why you and I are having this dance.

You mentioned my support for the Covenant Party? That's incidental. We don't see eye-to-eye on this next subject, Stanley, but what's important is of the man himself, Governor Fitial. After a rocky three years, you'll admit he's made the hard decisions to correct the ills of our government due to mismanagement by the Republican Party's past administrations and legislators since 1976. Markedly, in Friday's newspapers, a television correspondent produced a documentary about the islands and its *"sudden collapse of a tiny piece of America"* and *"coming back to what was once a thriving civilization that had been destroyed and abandoned."*

Now, Stanley, here's your first reality check and please be honest on this question: During any part of the last three decades and as an elected official, what bills did you personally sign into law hastening the demise of Saipan that you and your fellow graybeards and deadwoods gleefully passed, unchecked, to bloat their pockets, stack government jobs with relatives and gofers, fatten the Retirement Fund for their eventual exit from office, and waste a billion dollars of federal funds resulting in, among other dysfunctions too numerous to list, tap water unfit to drink and a power system that stinks? Ouch!

Ahh, those heady, glory days when no one dared stop your GOP minions who, literally, controlled everything. Want to get it back, do you?

And you wrote I "spewed attacks on Representative Tina Sablan"? You'd be so lucky. C'mon, Stanley, I sincerely admire that lady, she's got the guts to take you and that good ol' boys cabal of yours head on. Tina is the hope for us all in good governance. The reason? She has no political debts to pay, unlike your other gladhanders up there in their never-ending, daily quest of plotting to get re-elected in November. My letters are *to* Tina, not about Tina, and underscores a wake up call—a jolt if you will—to redouble her crusade, to never give up the fight and to correct the wrongs that surround her, especially in the Legislature. And, thankfully, Tina has what it takes—even though the Open Government Act she's been trying to push through continually gets body-slammed by the good ol' boys and, unfortunately, underscored by yet another one of her corrective measures, that of investigating Lt. Gov. Villagomez. That was trashed, too.

But it's no secret, Stanley: if you open that can of worms to expose the graft and corruption that's so pervasive, who is to say the next investigation won't be—you? Or them? Playing it safe, huh? You've filed a million court cases in the last millennium, but never against your cabal cronies. Why? Oh, I know, Stanley, it just came to me in a flash: You've been up there too long and know too many skeletons not to expose your colleagues so they won't expose you. Attaboy, be nice. Now, that would make a great circus act I'd love to see!

However, Stanley, you and I will be the first to credit and acknowledge the courage of freshman congressman Camacho. As floor leader at least he tried, but failed, to get the other elected representatives to straighten up their acts and to come up with revenue generating bills. Why did he fail? Took the poor guy too long to realize the legislative body is not a center for responsible politics. So much for believing in the tooth fairy. And after all his futile efforts, what did our community get instead? Grandstanders and letter writers.

Stanley, you personally might not want to admit this but here goes: If there was ever an example of being awarded for failure, it's the islands' GOP culture. Yet how do we in the community know this? Every single catastrophe the CNMI is currently experiencing is due to incompetent leadership over the last three decades by you and the other graybeards and deadwoods up on the hill. And you won't agree but our community deserves a drastic change from what we now have. They believe a clean sweep on the hill and the breakup of that gang of thieves is far overdue. How would you know that? Read the letters to the editors, Stanley. And the claim of "I have the experience" and "I am your public servant" so "vote for me again"—is hogwash.

What do you say, Stanley, if we bring back former members Absalon Waki and Cinta Kaipat, among several other past electees, who tried to make a difference but got blindsided by your "get on the train or die..." mentality? And encourage all the failed candidates in the delegate race, such as Gonzalez and Won and Davis to run. Even Propst and Greg Cruz and several letter writers who have incredible ideas to benefit the CNMI? To jump-start a failing economy with fresh faces and vote them into office? Thought you wouldn't go for it, Stanley. But it's better than what we have now. And our community is seriously heeding the dire warning issued by Congresswoman Sablan—especially after you and the rest garroted her Resolution 16-74 on Villagomez: "Today was a sad day for the people of the CNMI... Want change in government and

See MY BUDDY on Next Page

Stop the suffering and shame

Question: Would you buy a used car from Lt. Gov. Tim Villagomez? Most of our legislators indicated that they probably would when they voted down House Resolution 16-74. The resolution would have allowed the House to investigate the public information regarding Tim and then deciding if there were reasons to recommend impeachment. It would have taken guts to vote for the resolution, and that seems to be lacking on Capital Hill, except for only one legislator.

I asked my Representatives from District 4 if they were proud of what Tim is alleged to have done, regarding Ridlyme and CUC. They are good guys and admitted that they were embarrassed by all that has happened. Still they voted against the Resolution HR 16-74. They have their reasons for their vote, which I assume are valid. I think that politics are at play.

The CNMI has a blot on our society and government as long as Tim is still determined to stay in his office. His focus in life must be on his survival as a citizen of the CNMI. He continues to get his big salary, and the electricity for his family free. What do the people get in return? I'll tell you what we get: embarrassment, laughter, shame, and another bad example for the kids of the CNMI.

Tim should cut us free of the blot he has brought upon the people and step aside and resign. Whether he is innocent or guilty is not the question, the courts will determine that. He should leave to set the people free from this situation that he has caused. He should stop the suffering and shame.

Frank Stewart
Capital Hill, Saipan

Don't delay federalization's implementation

Veteran lawmakers like Senate President Pete Reyes, House Speaker Arnold Palacios, Gov. Benigno Fitial, and Rep. Diego Benavente are the very reason we are in the predicament we face today. For over two decades, their ignorance, political influences and self-interest have failed to correct the flaws and loopholes in our immigration and labor laws in the Commonwealth. They are responsible for pushing U.S. local citizens and residents of our homeland to unemployment and public assistance.

The concerns of the United States that the CNMI's importation of large numbers of guest workers was inconsistent with the Covenant and would result in serious social, cultural, and economic problems were first raised in 1986 by the Reagan Administration—some 23 years ago! Even today, although the immigration reform bill has been enacted, the CNMI government still continues to bring in workers in violation of the intent of the Covenant to protect the indigenous community. The insult and disrespect is that our leaders are more responsive to outside special interests than to the indigenous community.

U.S. Public Law 110-229 is of national security and border control concerns and it is a federal responsibility. It is our hope that the request to put off its implementation on June 1, 2009, is not adhered to by the federal government.

Gregorio Cruz Jr.
Taotao Tano CNMI Inc.

Attention to CNMI voters in California

This is just to inform all current and potential CNMI voters living in the sunny state of California. According to the California State Notary Public Handbook, "No fee may be charged to notarize signatures on vote by mail ballot identification envelopes or other voting materials."

This simply means that notaries of California cannot charge you a fee for their notarial services on any documents pertaining to absentee voting. This service is a *duty* by the notary and should be *free* of charge. If a notary ever demands for payment, you can take note of their name and commission number and send it to the office of the Secretary of State of California, Debra Bowen. Then that specific notary can have their commission refused, revoked, suspended, and even incur a fine for their misdemeanor. If you want to know more, here is a link for an online copy of the California State Notary Public Handbook: http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/notary/forms/handbook.pdf

Sherry Atalig Zapanta
San Diego, CA

New wing opens at NMC

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A new wing that will house various offices and classrooms for important programs in the Northern Marianas College was officially opened Friday on campus.

NMC Board of Regents chair Charles V. Cepeda told members of the Legislature, students and faculty that the formerly abandoned building is a testament to the college's commitment to bring progress and development to students.

Building M used to serve as the school's warehouse facility for many years but fell victim to various calamities such as typhoons.

The refurbished facility now serves as home for the languages and humanities department, the English language institute and the English learning laboratory.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios, left, is among the first visitors to tour the newly inaugurated Languages and Humanities Department/English Language Institute Building on the Northern Marianas College campus on Friday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, fourth from left, leads the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Languages and Humanities Department/English Language Institute Building on the NMC campus on Friday. From left, Senate President Pete P. Reyes, House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios, NMC Foundation president Ben Babauta, Fernandez, NMC Board of Regents chair Charles V. Cepeda, NMC faculty president Frank Sobolewski, NMC Languages and Humanities Department chair Mark Haag, and NMC staffer Joyce Taro.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Northern Marianas College's English professors Dominick Palestino, left, and Barry Wicksman, right, pose for the *Saipan Tribune* after the ribbon cutting ceremony for NMC's Languages and Humanities Department/English Language Institute Building on Friday.

It has 18 offices, two classrooms, a conference room, and an administrative office.

Saipan Tribune learned that NMC Foundation, through the leadership of Vicente Ben Babauta, contributed approximately $100,000 for the purchase of state-of-the-art equipment that include new computer systems, networking infrastructure, multimedia equipment, and classroom and office furniture.

Funding for its construction was sourced from local monies provided to the college to address accreditation concerns over NMC's dilapidated buildings.

The board chairman said that Building M will play an integral part in the college's efforts to attract foreign students, which will enhance cultural diversity on campus.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Students, faculty and visitors partake in the refreshments served right after the inauguration of the Northern Marianas College's Languages and Humanities Department/English Language Institute Building on Friday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Charles V. Cepeda, chairman of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents, addresses the crowd, who were mostly in red shirts, during the inauguration of the Languages and Humanities Department/English Language Institute Building on the NMC campus on Friday.

Northern Marianas College Foundation president Ben Babauta, a graduate of NMC himself, delivers a speech during the inauguration of the Languages and Humanities Department/English Language Institute Building on Friday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

NMC was recently placed on continued show-cause status and have until April this year to comply with the additional requirements.

Cepeda said renovation projects are part of the original recommendations by the accrediting commission.

He asked students and faculty to "keep" the facility.

"We must continue to be aware that these amenities need maintenance constantly," he said.

Citing the college's many improvements under the leadership of president Carmen Fernandez, Cepeda said everybody is expected to contribute their part in the completing the "remaining" standards.

He assured students that "more developments" would be seen on campus along the way.

MY BUDDY

From Page 14

leadership? ...Rethink the way we vote and the people we put into office now."

Amen.

Now let's discuss my "groundless accusations..." of you and about you, Stan the man McGinnis. *Na Wai Kekupu O'Oe'? Auwe, Kukai Alamoku!*

And honestly, Stanley, so what if other writers pick on you such as the one from Florida, in his Feb. 7, 2008 letter in the *Saipan Tribune*, that identifies you as a "grimy old billy goat"? Never mind. There are just too many other things to cover-up in your illustrious career.

But the one I really, really like is your courageous stand and countless attempts to "secede" the CNMI from the United States of America while you continue to enjoy all the *freedoms* granted in the U.S. Constitution, which account for the free perks, the free monies and last but never the least, the free access to write letters to the editors, to take pot-shots at those who cause you to hyperventilate and to throw us off to what you're really up to. And that impending June 1, 2009, takeover by the U.S. Homeland Security to protect our borders? Bah, who needs it, right? With that in mind, think: If, heaven forbid, the CNMI, Guam and the Marianas come under attack from without or within, by terrorists or rogue nations, who do you think will cry the loudest for the U.S. military, the CIA and the FBI to protect him? All that is in my book, too, if you care to read it. And Stanley? I believe, deep in your heart you see yourself as being honest, am I correct? Then burn your passport—I'll help by providing the match, okay? It's the least I can do for a friend. To paraphrase your own words, "be a proud Chamorro".

Thanks, buddy. Got to go, Stanley, nice talking to you again.

Lee Andersen
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

Business

More co-worker couples are losing both incomes at once

By MELISSA NELSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

It is a well-known risk to lack diversity in an investment portfolio. Now, couples employed by the same company are learning a similar lesson, the hard way.

As layoffs mount across the country and in all sectors, couples who are co-workers are increasingly vulnerable to losing their families' twin sources of income at once. The lack of variety in job skills can also make it difficult to bounce back, especially in a struggling industry.

Such hard times have befallen Clarkston, Mich., high school sweethearts Victor and Lauri Cox, who married in 1976 and soon took jobs at the General Motors plant; Pam Podger and John Cramer, who met as reporters at The Fresno Bee in California in 1991; and Chad and Lindsey Lewis, who prospered while selling homes for a Tampa builder but now face a more than 60 percent drop in there combined income.

Chad Lewis said the experience "hit us really hard," forcing them to dip into savings in order to afford health insurance and other necessities. But they have found a silver lining: "There is someone there to rely on, to go through this with you."

It may seem harsh for an employer to lay off both spouses simultaneously. But companies risk lawsuits and union contract violations if they consider workers' family status in determining who to eliminate.

And whatever the financial risks, it is simply unrealistic to expect couples who fall in love on the job or while studying the same field in school to be thinking about revenue diversification, said Stephanie Coontz, a family studies professor at Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash.

"I imagine that people will try to be more thoughtful about not putting all their economic eggs in the same basket, but I doubt if they will start trying to meet people outside their field just for economic reasons," Coontz said.

People searching for a lifetime partner say the idea of choosing mates based on their careers would add too much complication to an already difficult process.

AP

Pam Podger and John Cramer, two journalists who moved cross country to start jobs at the Missoulian newspaper and were laid off at the same time less than 10 months later, pose for a photo in their home in Missoula Mont., Friday, Feb. 6, 2009.

"Most of the single people I know are happy just to find another single person they get along with, let alone worry about what kind of job they have," said Margaret Warren, 45, a Pensacola artist and computer consultant who dates a restorer of antique automobiles.

It was a shared love of journalism that helped spark romance between Pam Podger and John Cramer.

When the Roanoke Times in Virginia began cutting costs and offering early retirements last year, the couple thought they had found safe harbor and a fresh start out West at The Missoulian, a 28,000-daily and 32,000-Sunday circulation newspaper in Missoula, Mont.

Less than 10 months later, the publisher laid them off, unsettling the new life they had begun with their two toddlers.

"Do I wish one of us had a sudden yen to go into medicine, law, business? Sure, some days," Podger said.

Podger now freelances and teaches part time, while her husband has a part-time job at a smaller paper owned by the same publisher.

Such double layoffs would have been extremely rare just a couple of generations ago.

Before the 1970s, families weathered economic downturns by sending the non-working spouse, typically wives, into the work force. But today roughly 53 percent of all married couples, and 64 percent of married couples with children under age 18, rely on two incomes, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

In theory that should have increased financial security. Instead, couples often use the extra income to buy bigger homes, nicer cars and other luxuries, said Rick Harper, director of the University of West Florida's Haas Center for Business Research.

"In the 1980s, both spouses worked and the savings rate for families went from 12 and 14 percent to essentially zero," Harper said. "In this decade, households smoothed over the rough spots by taking equity out of their homes. Now there is no equity left to take."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Obama, Senate GOP bicker over stimulus

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama and Senate Republicans bickered Saturday over his historically huge economic recovery plan after states and schools lost tens of billions of dollars in a late-night bargain to save it. The $827 billion measure is on track to pass the Senate on Tuesday despite stiff opposition from the GOP and disappointment among Democrats, including the new president who labeled it imperfect. Next up: Difficult negotiations between the House and Senate, which are divided over spending for tax cuts, education and aid for local governments. The Senate convened a rare Saturday session to debate a compromise forged between GOP moderates and the White House on Friday. The compromise stripped $108 billion in spending from Obama's plan, including cutbacks in projects that likely would give the economy a quick lift, like $40 billion in aid to state governments for education and other programs.

Small company in salmonella scandal had wide reach

ATLANTA (AP)—From school lunches to nutrition bars and ice cream, the nationwide salmonella outbreak has reached deep into the American food supply - even though many people had never heard of the small company at the center of the investigation until a few weeks ago. The food manufacturer, Peanut Corp. of America, has just a few plants scattered across the South, but it may be responsible for one of the nation's largest food recalls in history. Federal investigators on Friday said the Lynchburg, Va.-based company knowingly shipped salmonella-laced products from its Blakely, Ga., plant after tests showed the products were contaminated. Federal law forbids producing or shipping foods under conditions that could make it harmful to consumers' health. So far, the salmonella outbreak has sickened about 575 people in 43 states and may have contributed to at least eight deaths. The Justice Department has opened a criminal investigation and more than 1,550 products have been recalled.

Nation

Officials: 1 dead and 134 rescued from Lake Erie ice

OAK HARBOR, Ohio (AP)—A miles-wide ice floe broke away Saturday from Lake Erie's shoreline, trapping more than 130 fishermen offshore, some for as long as four hours. One man fell into the water and later died of an apparent heart attack.

A Coast Guard spokesman, Chief Petty Officer Robert Lanier, said 134 people had been plucked from the ice by late afternoon. Rescuers in helicopters lowered baskets onto the ice, and people climbed in and were lifted to safety. Others boarded air boats that glided across the ice.

"We were in no danger," said Norb Pilaczynski of Swanton, Ohio, who was rescued from the lake along with several of his friends. "We knew there was enough ice out there."

The day began with fishermen setting down wooden pallets to create a bridge over a crack in the ice so they could roam farther out on the lake. But the planks fell into the water when the ice shifted, stranding the fishermen about 1,000 yards offshore.

"We get people out here who don't know how to read the ice," Ottawa County Sheriff Bob Bratton said. "What happened here today was just idiotic. I don't know how else to put it."

Leslie Love, 65, of New Albany, Ohio, died of an apparent heart attack after his snowmobile broke through the ice while he was searching for a safe place to cross back to shore, according to the Ottawa County sheriff's office.

Love collapsed after he was helped back onto solid ice, the sheriff's office said. A relative performed CPR until a helicopter transported Love to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Ice on western sections of Lake Erie was up to 2 feet thick Saturday, National Weather Service meteorologist Bill Randel said. The ice cracked as temperatures rose and winds of up to 35 mph pushed on the ice.

"The crack blew up," said Chuck Hasty of Holland, Ohio, who has been out on the ice all week. "It was a matter of a minute or so."

When fishermen realized late Saturday morning that the ice had broken away, they began to debate the best way off. Some chose to sit and wait for authorities, while others headed east in search of an ice bridge.

AP

Rescue workers walk across frozen Lake Erie as they return to shore at Crane Creek State Park in Oak Harbor, Mich., after rescuing a number of fishermen stranded on a slab of ice about 1,000 yards off shore, Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009.

ACROSS THE NATION

Navy takes off cargo, people to lighten ship

HONOLULU (AP)—The Navy offloaded fuel, water and personnel from a grounded, $1 billion guided missile cruiser so tugboats and a salvage ship can try again early Sunday morning to free it from a rock and sand shoal. The USS Port Royal ran aground on Thursday evening, about a half-mile south of the Honolulu airport where it was visible from several vantage points on Oahu. No one was injured and no oil or other contaminants have leaked, said representatives of the Navy and Coast Guard, as well as state officials. At a press conference, Rear Admiral Joseph Walsh, deputy commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, said the ship is structurally sound. But he added that a thick, underwater rubber encasement that surrounds sonar equipment at the bow has taken on seawater.

Official: Sebelius near top for health post

WASHINGTON (AP)—Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius was very near the top of President Barack Obama's list of candidates to head the Health and Human Services Department, a senior administration official said Saturday. The source, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss private administration deliberations, said no decision was imminent. But the official added the former Kansas insurance commissioner was rising as Obama considers prospective candidates. Sebelius would be Obama's second choice for the slot. Former Sen. Tom Daschle had to withdraw his name amid an admission he had not paid taxes on a car and driver since leaving Congress as a Democratic leader. White House spokesman Reid Cherlin on Saturday said no decision had been made.

Deadly standoff closes Nevada freeway junction

RENO, Nev. (AP)—A police standoff that ended in the apparent suicide of a motorist shut down a ramp at a busy freeway intersection for more than 12 hours Saturday, authorities said. The eight-hour standoff at the so-called "Spaghetti Bowl," where Interstate 80 and U.S. 395 merge, ended at 8 a.m. when a SWAT team lobbed tear gas into the man's car after efforts to get him to surrender failed, police Lt. Robert McDonald said. Authorities found the 32-year-old Reno-area man dead of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound, McDonald said. His name was withheld pending notification of family.

NTSB: Door distracted tour bus driver before crash

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A tour bus driver had tried to fix a problem door and was blinded by the sun's glare just before the bus crashed near Hoover Dam last month, killing seven passengers, an investigator said Saturday. "We know he was distracted by that door," National Transportation Safety Board lead investigator Peter Kotowski told reporters. Witnesses told investigators the driver's side door was open at one point just before the bus crashed. Kotowski said the driver also "indicated he was blinded by sun glare" just before he lost control of the bus around 4 p.m. on Jan. 30 as he was driving the group of Chinese tourists to Las Vegas from the Grand Canyon.

Asia

Aussie wildfires kill 49

AP

A fire truck moves away from out of control flames from a bushfire in the Bunyip Sate Forest near the township of Tonimbuk, 125 kilometers (78 miles) west of Melbourne, Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009.

HEALESVILLE, Australia (AP)—A police spokeswoman says the death toll from wildfires that have swept Australia's southeast has risen to 49.

The toll from firestorms in southern Victoria state climbed steadily Sunday as emergency crews reached further into a huge burnt-out area.

Officials say at least 640 houses were destroyed in Saturday's blazes, and that tally was expected to rise.

Victoria state police spokeswoman Leanne Quentin said the latest death toll on Sunday evening was 49.

Witnesses described seeing trees exploding and skies raining ash as temperatures hit a record 117 degrees Fahrenheit (47 C) on Saturday in Victoria state and combined with raging winds to create perfect conditions for uncontrollable blazes.

"Hell in all its fury has visited the good people of Victoria in the last 24 hours," Prime Minister Kevin Rudd told reporters Sunday as he toured the fire zone.

Police said they believed the deaths included groups of people whose charred bodies were found in cars—suggesting families or groups of friends were engulfed in flames as they tried to flee. One official said an entire town had been razed save for one building, though no deaths were reported there.

Police said they were still trying to confirm details of the deaths, with officers' movements hampered by still-dangerous conditions in the disaster zone.

But Victoria police spokeswoman Sarah Campbell said a total of 35 bodies were found at a dozen locations north and east of the state capital, Melbourne. At least 18 people were hospitalized with burns.

PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

Soldiers kill 8 rebels in southern Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Soldiers backed by attack helicopters have killed eight communist rebels over the past week in the southern Philippines as part of a stepped-up campaign against the guerrillas, an army commander said Saturday. The military is under orders from President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to end the 40-year-old Maoist insurgency—one of Asia's longest—by 2010. Lt. Col. Milfredo Meligrito, commander of the 57th Infantry Battalion, said soldiers killed seven New People's Army guerrillas Friday in a battle outside Tulunan township in Cotabato province. He said another guerrilla was killed in a clash Monday. He said troops were pursuing a few dozen guerrillas who fled but there were no reports of firefights Saturday.

US senators brief Arroyo on compensation promised Filipino vets

WASHINGTON (AP)—Visiting Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo has been briefed on a campaign by Hawaii's two senators to get compensation promised six decades ago to Filipino soldiers who fought for the United States during World War II. One of the senators, Daniel K. Inouye, has inserted $198 million for them into the economic stimulus bill making its way through the U.S. Senate. Inouye is chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. It was uncertain whether the money remained in the bill that Senate negotiators apparently agreed to Friday night. Macapagal Arroyo met Friday with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, but a State Department official who spoke about the meeting did not mention the Filipino veterans and their long drive for compensation. Macapagal Arroyo congratulated Clinton for her new job.

Kidnappers of Red Cross workers demand troop pullout

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Muslim militants holding three Red Cross workers on a southern Philippine island said Friday they will not begin negotiations for their release unless government troops leave the area. Philippine officials have rejected any withdrawal of troops from the island, where they have been targeting Abu Sayyaf militants for years. It was the at least the second request by the militants the troops pull out of the area. "What we want first is the pullout of the military," a man who identified himself as Albader Parad, a commander of the al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf group, said in a telephone interview with ABS-CBN television. "If they do not pull out, we will not talk with anyone," he said. Earlier Friday, separate Muslim rebels freed a loan company employee three days after kidnapping him along with two female co-workers on Basilan island near Jolo. One of the co-workers escaped the day they were abducted, while the fate of the second is unknown, regional military spokeswoman Lt. Steffani Cacho said.

RP mulls lifting Iraq ban for OFWs

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines will reassess its current ban on sending workers to Iraq, Nigeria and Lebanon and may lift it in areas with lower security risks because of the global economic crisis, the vice president said Friday. The country's economy is largely dependent on its overseas workers, with some 8.7 million of out of 90 million Filipinos working abroad. The government said $14.45 billion was sent home in 2007, about 10 percent of the gross domestic product. It has projected 2008 remittances will hit $15.7 billion. Vice President Noli de Castro, who is also the presidential adviser on migrant workers, said security has reportedly improved in the economic centers of Iraq, Nigeria and Lebanon. He said a selective lifting of the ban is being considered "to widen our overseas employment market in the light of the global economic crisis."

World

Saudi suspects want to revive al-Qaida

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—One of the men on the Saudi Arabia's new most-wanted list is married to Osama bin Laden's daughter while another was involved in a plot to kill the U.S. ambassador in Yemen. A third smuggled militants into Iraq from Syria.

Documents profiling the 85 wanted men - 83 Saudis and two Yemenis - reveal that many of them either took part in planning attacks targeting oil, security and other installations in the kingdom or provided al-Qaida members with weapons, safe haven, false documents and money.

The documents illuminate the extent of Saudi participation in the shadowy extremist networks struggling to rebuild in the Arabian peninsula after a series of harsh crackdowns in past years. All the men on the list are hiding abroad, many in neighboring Yemen.

Saudi officials say Yemen's lawless hinterland gives these militants a place to hide, while keeping them close to the kingdom and their source of recruits.

Yemen, meanwhile, has announced plans for a major operation against an entrenched al-Qaida presence around the city of Marib, east of the capital. Tribal leaders have been called on to hand over any militants.

The men on the list were all ages and came from throughout the kingdom, according to documents provided to The Associated Press on Saturday by a Saudi official who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the issue.

The youngest, 16-year-old Abdul-Ilah al-Shihri, was only nine around the time of the Sept. 11 attacks. He was smuggled into Yemen to join al-Qaida there by his uncle, according to the documents.

The official said the men are active members of al-Qaida or local offshoots and planned to re-establish the terror network in Saudi Arabia following the kingdom's aggressive campaign, which had netted hundreds of members and sympathizers.

Holocaust denier will review evidence

BERLIN (AP)—A bishop who faces a Vatican demand to recant his denial of the Holocaust said he would correct himself if he is satisfied by the evidence, but insisted that examining it "will take time," a German magazine reported Saturday.

Richard Williamson is one of four bishops from the ultraconservative Society of St. Pius X whose excommunication was lifted by the Vatican last month. The decision sparked outrage because Williamson had said in a television interview he did not believe any Jews were gassed during the Holocaust.

On Wednesday, the Vatican demanded that Williamson recant his denial before he can be admitted as a bishop into the Roman Catholic Church.

Williamson made clear he does not plan to comply immediately, and rejected a suggestion that he might visit the Auschwitz death camp, the weekly Der Spiegel reported.

"Since I see that there are many honest and intelligent people who think differently, I must look again at the historical evidence," the British bishop was quoted as saying.

"It is about historical evidence, not about emotions," he added, according to the report. "And if I find this evidence, I will correct myself. But that will take time."

The magazine suggested that he could make a personal visit to Auschwitz, set up by the Nazis in occupied Poland, which stands as the most powerful symbol of the Holocaust. More than 1 million people, mostly Jews, died there.

Roommate testifies in trial of US student in Italy

PERUGIA, Italy (AP)—American student Amanda Knox and the British student she is accused of killing were friendly when they first met as foreign exchange students in Italy, but they then drifted apart, their roommate testified Saturday.

Knox is on trial with her Italian former boyfriend Raffaele Sollecito for the murder and sexual assault of Meredith Kercher, who was found stabbed to death Nov. 2, 2007, in the apartment she shared with Knox and Filomena Romanelli in Perugia.

Romanelli testified for the first time in court Saturday, saying Knox and Kercher had been close initially, in part because they both spoke English.

"They had interests in common, at the beginning they surely had a good relationship, there was no reason not to get along," said Romanelli, who is Italian.

"Along the way, they didn't really go separate ways, but they developed personal interests that they pursued individually," she said.

While Kercher was dedicated to her studies, Knox was someone with "quite a lot of interests," Romanelli said. "She liked music, sports, yoga, languages. Sometimes she had unusual attitudes, like she would start doing yoga while we were speaking, or she would play guitar while we were watching TV."

On the day Kercher's body was found, Romanelli said, she received a call from Knox in which the American said she had found the apartment's main door open and drops of blood in one of the bathrooms.

WORLD BRIEFS

Madagascar soldiers shoot protesters, some dead

ANTANANARIVO, Madagascar (AP)—Soldiers opened fire on anti-government protesters Saturday near the presidential palace in Madagascar's capital, and radio stations reported some 30 people were killed in a dramatic escalation of a confrontation between the established order and a young politician determined to shake up this Indian Ocean island. An AP reporter witnessed the shootings in Antananarivo and saw protesters falling, but it was unclear whether they were wounded or dead. The president, Marc Ravalomanana, appeared on state television afterward to say the loss of life was "difficult," and to place the blame on his rival, Andry Rajoelina. He did not say how many had been killed or wounded. There has been no official confirmation of the deaths, which were reported by both state-run and independent radio.

Kurd PM criticizes troop movement in Iraqi north

IRBIL, Iraq (AP)—The prime minister of Iraq's Kurdish region accused the Arab-dominated national government Saturday of trying to use troops to seize control of the disputed city of Kirkuk, escalating tensions between Iraqi Kurds and the Arab leadership in Baghdad. U.S. officials consider the growing Arab-Kurdish rift as one of the major threats to Iraq's stability as President Barack Obama's administration maps plans to withdraw U.S. troops from Iraq. Kurdish officials, close American allies who have jealously guarded their self-governing territory in the north since the U.S. helped set it up in 1991, have in recent months stepped up their criticism of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, accusing him of trying to re-establish a strong centralized state similar to Saddam Hussein's regime.

Health & Fitness

Over 200 kids avail of free dental service

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic staffer Lovely Lopez, right, shows the proper way of brushing one's teeth during a free dental clinic for children from low-income families on Friday.

Children pay attention to a demonstration of how to properly brush one's teeth by Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic staffer Lovely Lopez, left, during a free dental clinic for children from low-income families on Friday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Over 200 children trooped to the Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic Friday to avail of the clinic's "Give a Kid a Smile" free treatment project.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Seventh Day Adventist's dental nurse Jidda Bariso attends to 2-year-old Glyzel Margarette Tugade during a free dental clinic for children from low-income families on Friday.

SDA undertook the project in celebration of February as Children's Dental Health Month.

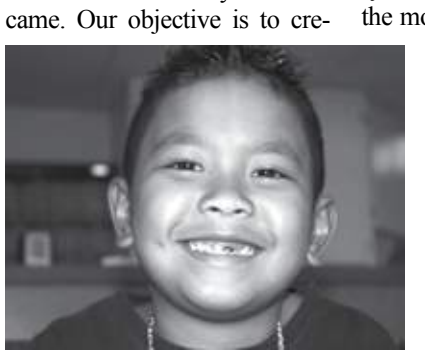
Lori Serna, registered dental hygienist, disclosed that SDA intends to make the event an annual celebration for the CNMI.

"This is the first time that we have this on island and SDA is happy to sponsor it in conjunction with the American Dental Association," she said.

More than 200 children, along with their parents, lined up at the clinic's lobby as early as 8am Friday waiting for their chance to be treated.

Serna said all staff worked together to accommodate all who registered for the event.

"We're giving a free dental assessment and screening. We also provided prescription for the fluoride, brochures and free toothbrush for everyone who came. Our objective is to create awareness among our kids and their parents, highlighting the importance of dental care," Serna said.



Zacharias Reyes, 6, smiles in front of a camera while waiting for his turn to receive free dental care at the Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic on Friday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Early last week, the dental hygienist was seen making presentations to Koblerville Elementary School students. Throughout the month, more public schools will be visited by SDA personnel.

In the past, Serna was an active participant in health fairs and campaigns.

SDA initially brought to the island the "Clinic with a Heart."

Like the success of the campaign held every June, Serna hopes to bring the same to "Give a Kid a Smile."

According to clinic director Dr. Ken D. Pierson, Friday's event was also SDA's way of giving back to the community.

"By doing this, we can make a positive impact on the community because we bring awareness and education to the public," he said.

Pierson said the event caters to mostly children of low-income families who may not have the adequate resources to avail of dental treatment.

"We intend to make this an annual event because we're helping these children of low-income families or people who don't have insurance or a way to see a dentist. It's good to feel that we're making some impact on their lives," he said, adding that many kids on island have inadequate dental care.

Brother and sister Zakari and Jaylene Reyes, of Tanapag Elementary School, were among those seen lining up yesterday.

Although it was their first time to see a dentist, they said the experience was fun.

"They look[ed] at my teeth… and cleaned it," the 7-year-old girl said.

SDA dental clinic has been doing business on island for over 10 years.

It said parents who may want to avail of the free screening for their children can also contact the clinic to make an appointment.

Mountain biking expands his life at least 3 times a week

THE HARTFORD COURANT

Water shoots into the air as Al Tinti, 61, of Glastonbury, Conn., crosses a stream on his "hard tail" mountain bike in Grayville Park in Hebron, Conn. Tinti is a legendary figure among local mountain bike enthusiasts, leading grueling rides several times a week on trails that he helped create.

By STEPHEN DUNN
(C) 2009, THE HARTFORD COURANT

Mike Cappiello says mountain biking saved his life, or at least his health.

Cappiello, 56, had an epiphany in his mid-30s. Powerboating was his hobby at the time, and he spent a lot of time sitting and drinking beer. Right about the time he noticed his expanding waistline, he discovered mountain biking.

Cappiello, of Vernon, Conn., has mountain-biked three to four times a week for the last 20 years and is in significantly better shape. He is among hundreds who bike through the state's 126 parks and forests, which offer hundreds of miles of trails.

Mountain biking has grown in popularity in the last few decades. In this region, there are more than 3,000 members in the New England Mountain Bike Association, and at least 32,000 members in the International Mountain Bicycling Association.

Going "off road" on specially designed bikes that include knobby tires, front and rear shock absorbers and low-range gears are what these self-described "adrenaline junkies" love. The goal is to find the most challenging course through the woods that will include jumps, drops, and water crossings. Cappiello rides a "hard-tail" bike, which means it has no rear suspension and gives a bone-jarring journey.

Like many sports, mountain biking has its own language and attitudes. When discussing a recent ride, Cappiello and his two riding buddies, Mark VanOstrand of Hebron and Al Tinti of Glastonbury, acted and sounded like 20-something skateboarders. Both of the other men are in their 60s.

"The niner rolled through the rock garden but had trouble hucking the small drop. It cornered like it was on a rail, but maintaining traction on the steeps was difficult," VanOstrand said.

For Cappiello, mountain biking is an obsession. If he does not ride at least three times a week, he said, he goes crazy.

In the summer, the three friends try to hit the trails every day.

"I can sum mountain biking up in one word," says Cappiello. "Life."

Life & Style

Hudson 'miracle' pilot gets applause on Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—Weeks after starring in his own story of bravery and heroism, the pilot who safely ditched his jetliner in the Hudson River received a standing ovation Saturday from the audience at a Broadway performance of "South Pacific."

At the end of the classic revival, the show's stars introduced Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger as the pilot who set down the disabled plane within reach of rescue boats last month, saving the lives of all 155 people on US Airways Flight 1549.

"It could have been tragic, but it wasn't. It became a miracle," said Kelli O'Hara, who plays the show's lead female character, Nellie Forbush. "We've never been more honored than to perform for you, Captain."

As she spoke, a spotlight was trained on Sullenberger in the audience, and the crowd stood, cheered and applauded. The pilot's wife, Lorrie Sullenberger, began wiping tears from her face.

He hugged her, then turned back to the crowd and waved as the cheers grew still louder.

Many in the audience already had recognized him. Murmurs of "look who's here" had buzzed through the crowd during intermission.

"It was quite exciting just to see this guy who saved so many lives," said David Feldman, who found himself sitting two rows behind the pilot.

"It's so nice to have a hero who's a real hero, instead of movie stars," added Feldman's wife, Ellen Schwartz.

AP

Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger III, center, has his picture taken with actors Kelli O'Hara, left, and Paulo Szot as Sullenberger and his family tour backstage after seeing the musical "South Pacific" at Lincoln Center Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009 in New York.

The 58-year-old pilot, his wife and their two daughters went backstage after the show and met the cast of the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, which tells of the romances and heroics of a group of American aviators, nurses and sailors stationed far from home during World War II.

It was an appropriate choice for Sullenberger, who was named best aviator in his Air Force Academy class and served in the military from 1973 to 1980. He flew F-4 Phantom II fighter planes and served as a flight leader in Europe and the Pacific.

The calm and steadiness with which he handled the Jan. 15 near-disaster—witnesses said he walked the length of the waterlogged plane to make sure everyone got out—could have fit right in with the feats depicted on the Lincoln Center Theater stage. A propeller plane even forms part of the show's set.

Sullenberger and his fellow crew members are in New York as part of a media blitz, including an interview with the pilot that is set to air Sunday on CBS' "60 Minutes." He also is expected to appear Monday on ABC's "Good Morning America" and CBS's "The Early Show" and to receive a key to the city from Mayor Michael Bloomberg later in the day.

Film, TV actor James Whitmore dies of lung cancer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—James Whitmore, the many-faceted character actor who delivered strong performances in movies, television and especially the theater with his popular one-man shows about Harry Truman, Will Rogers and Theodore Roosevelt, died Friday, his son said. He was 87.

The Emmy- and Tony-winning actor was diagnosed with lung cancer the week before Thanksgiving and died Friday afternoon at his Malibu home, Steve Whitmore said.

"My father believed that family came before everything, that work was just a vehicle in which to provide for your family," said Whitmore, who works as spokesman for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. "At the end, and in the last two and a half months of his life, he was surrounded by his family."

His long-running "Give 'em Hell, Harry," tracing the life of the 33rd president, was released as a theatrical movie in 1975. Whitmore was nominated for an Academy Award as best actor, marking the only time in Oscar history that an actor has been nominated for a film in which he was the only cast member. His Teddy Roosevelt portrait, "Bully," was also converted into a movie.

He later became the TV pitchman for Miracle-Gro plant food, and used the product in his large vegetable garden at his Malibu home.

While not known for his politics, Whitmore was an early supporter of President Barack Obama. He stumped for Obama during a 2007 rally at the Gibson Theatre at Universal Studios, telling the crowd that Obama had the wisdom "to deal with a very, very confused and complex country, and the world." Whitmore also appeared in TV commercials in 2008 for the "First Freedom First" campaign, which advocates religious liberty and preserving the separation of church and state.

Whitmore had regularly attended an Oscar night bash, Night of 100 Stars, and had sent in his RSVP for this year, said Edward Lozzi, a spokesman for agent Norby Walters' gala.

Whitmore started both his Broadway and Hollywood careers with acclaimed performances, both as tough-talking sergeants. In 1947, discharged a year from Marine duty, he made his Broadway debut in a taut Air Force drama, "Command Decision." He was awarded a Tony for outstanding performance by a newcomer.

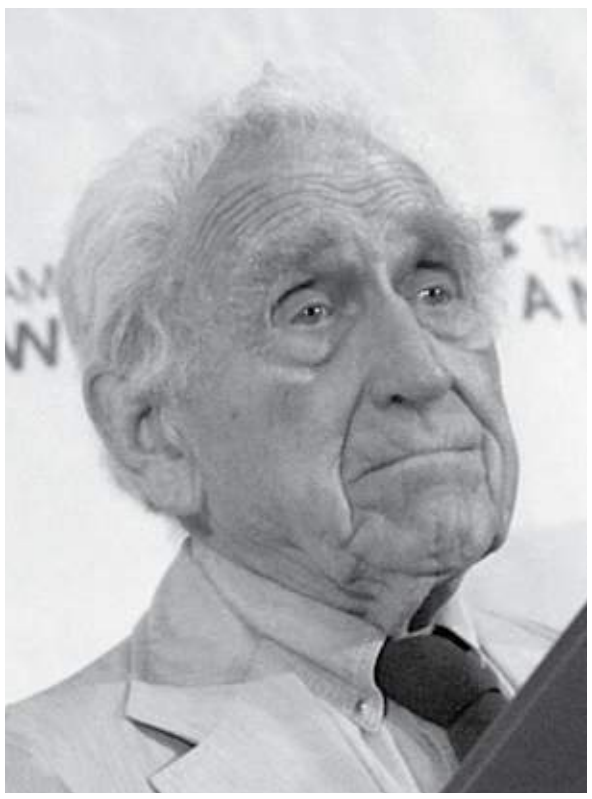
Two years later, Whitmore was nominated for an Academy Award and won a Golden Globe as supporting actor in the war movie "Battleground."

He followed with memorable performances in scores of films, refusing to be typed. Besides war movies, he appeared in Westerns ("The Last Frontier," "Chato's Land"), musicals ("Kiss Me Kate," "Oklahoma!"), science fiction ("Planet of the Apes," "Them"), dramas ("The Asphalt Jungle," "The Shawshank Redemption") and comedies ("Mr. O'Malley and Mrs. Malone," "The Great Diamond Robbery.")

Shirley Jones, a teenager when she starred in "Oklahoma," said she came to know Whitmore during months of filming in Nogales, Ariz., and recalled being impressed by her good-humored and highly disciplined colleague.

"He told me, `If you're going to be in this business, you better learn your craft,'" Jones recalled. "And he never stopped learning."

His favorite film was "Black Like Me" (1964), a true story about a white reporter who used medication to blacken his skin to experience life as an African-American in the South.



AP

In this June 22, 2008 file photo, actor James Whitmore speaks at a news conference for "Campaign For a New G.I. Bill" in Beverly Hills, Calif. Whitmore benefited from the G.I. Bill after he served in the United States military during World War II.

Another of his rare starring roles was "The Next Voice You Hear" (1950), in which a family hears the voice of God via the radio. He played opposite Nancy Davis, the future Mrs. Ronald Reagan.

Whitmore often appeared on television, starring in the series "The Law and Mr. Jones" (1960-1962), "My Friend Tony" (1969) and "Temperatures Rising" (1972-1973). He received an Emmy in 1999 as guest actor in a series for "The Practice."

Jones recalled seeing him in a 2007 episode of the TV drama "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" and marveling at his still-sharp talent. "I was absolutely blown away by that. He had a huge role, playing a lawyer, and it was phenomenal," she said.

A student of history, Whitmore delighted in portraying famous American personages. He toured in the play "The Magnificent Yankee," about Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. He played Ulysses S. Grant in a 1960 TV movie, Adm. William F. "Bull" Halsey in the Pearl Harbor attack spectacle "Tora! Tora! Tora!", and Walt Whitman in a dramatic reading, "A Whitman Portrait."

The monologues of Harry Truman, Will Rogers and Teddy Roosevelt brought Whitmore his greatest success. In 2000, he appeared in "Will Rogers, U.S.A." at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C., his eighth engagement in the show at Ford's over a 30-year period.

President Ford attended a performance of "Give 'em Hell, Harry" at Ford's Theater after Richard Nixon resigned. Whitmore worried about Ford's reaction to Truman's crusty words about Nixon.

The actor recalled: "I was three feet from Gerry Ford when I said to the press as Truman: `Nixon is a no-good lying (expletive); if he ever caught himself telling the truth, he'd tell a lie just to keep his hand in.' After the show, (Ford) came up on stage and put his arm around me and said, `That was a pretty good blocking back.'" Ford had been line coach when Whitmore played football at Yale.

His movie and television careers continued into the 21st century, but he admitted that he preferred the stage.

"I find the process of making movies absolutely boring," he told a reporter in 1994. "It's so fragmented. You wait and wait and wait and then, look, as Jack Lemmon says, `It's magic time.' In the theater, once the curtain goes up, the actor is in charge."

Born in 1921 in White Plains, N.Y., Whitmore was active in school sports and acted in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, though his strict Methodist family disapproved of the profession. After a year at an Ivy League prep school, Whitmore in 1939 enrolled in prelaw at Yale University, where he had won a football scholarship. Two knee injuries ended his football career, and he devoted himself to dramatics.

After graduating from Yale, he enlisted in the Marines and served in the South Pacific. "I had a lot of time to think in the Marine Corps," he recalled, "and so I decided it wasn't the law I wanted but the theater."

In New York he studied at the American Theater Wing under the G.I. Bill, living on $20 a week and rooming with another hopeful actor, Jack Warden. After a season in summer stock in New Hampshire, he returned to New York and won the role of Sergeant Harold Evans in "Command Decision." Rave reviews started his career in motion.

He married Nancy Mygatt in 1947, and the couple had three sons, James, Steven and Daniel. They later divorced, and in 1971 he married an actress, Audra Lindley. They often appeared in plays together, even after their 1979 divorce. He remarried his first wife in the 1980s, but another divorce ensued. Nearing 80 in 2001, Whitmore married actress-writer Noreen Nash.

Whitmore is also survived by eight grandchildren.

Grammy weekend kicks off with Neil Diamond tribute

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jennifer Hudson's stirring vocals on "Holly Holy" and Coldplay's stripped-down version of "I'm A Believer" helped take Neil Diamond on a musical journey of his career.

They joined Foo Fighters, Tim McGraw and many others in launching Grammy weekend with performances honoring the 68-year-old Diamond as MusiCares Person of the Year.

The music industry charity celebrated Diamond for his philanthropy, which included donating concert merchandise sales last fall to relief efforts for Texas areas ravaged by Hurricane Ike.

Surrounded by his children and grandchildren, Diamond listened as more than 50 years of what he called "my little musical creations" were interpreted for 2,200 people at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

"I love you for it," he told the crowd.

The singer-songwriter thanked his mother, Rose, who was in the audience, recalling how his parents bought him a $10 guitar as a youngster in Brooklyn.

"They paid it off a dollar a week for 10 weeks," he said. "It was a good investment, Mom. You invested $10 and made a life for me."

Neil Diamond, right, and Faith Hill are seen after performing at the MusiCares Person of the Year tribute honoring him on Friday, Feb. 6, 2009, in Los Angeles.

AP

Jonas Brothers kicked off the show with "Forever in Blue Jeans."

"Aren't they adorable?" host Jimmy Kimmel joked. "These kids wouldn't even have sideburns if it weren't for Neil Diamond."

Kid Rock did "Thank the Lord for the Night Time."

Diamond slow-danced with Faith Hill during their duet on "You Don't Bring Me Flowers" and kissed her hand.

He got the crowd on its feet for "America" and kept them there for a singalong finale to "Sweet Caroline." In the audience, comedian Sarah Silverman wrapped her arms around boyfriend Kimmel as they swayed to the music.

In a nod to Diamond's sparkly duds of the '70s, Kimmel told him he was "one of the few Jews who look good in sequins."

The unlikeliest performers were Los Volcanes, a Tejano group from south Texas that did "Red Red Wine."

In a taped piece, Diamond said he found himself chatting with band accordionist Eddie Rodriguez when he misdialed while making a phone call to Pearl Jam singer Eddie Vedder.

Diamond learned that Rodriguez was in a band and had him send a demo tape, leading to the gig.

The group earned a standing ovation.

British singer Adele sang "Cracklin' Rose" while wrapping her heavily bandaged right thumb around the microphone. Chris Cornell offered up "Kentucky Woman," while Raul Malo did Diamond's big hit "Solitary Man."

Cassandra Wilson and trumpeter Terence Blanchard teamed for a jazzy take on "September Morn," Eric Benet crooned "Heartlight" from the movie "E.T." and Tim McGraw sang "Hello Again."

M.I.A. says Grammys could be labor intensive

LOS ANGELES (AP)—M.I.A.'s planned performance at the Grammys might be more labor intensive than most.

The pregnant rapper is nominated for two Grammys, including record of the year for her hit "Paper Planes." She could give birth to her first child at any moment. Yet she has agreed to perform during the Grammy telecast, to be aired live on CBS on Sunday.

M.I.A. said she'd been asked to perform with Jay-Z, T.I., Kanye West and Lil Wayne on the Grammy-nominated "Swagga Like Us," which is based on a sample of "Paper Planes."

But in a recent interview, she admitted that she worried such a performance "might induce labor.

"When I read these books on childbirth they are like, 'If you want to induce labor, try having a game of arm wrestle with your friend.' I am like, 'Oh my God, my option isn't an arm wrestle - it's like being onstage and with Jay-Z and Lil Wayne and Kanye and T.I.' To me that is really exciting, to be a nine-month pregnant woman," she said.

AP

In this Nov. 18, 2008 file photo, M.I.A. arrives at the GQ magazine 2008 "Men of the Year" party in Los Angeles.

M.I.A. has had a lot of excitement already in the past year. Not only is she due to give birth to her child with fiance Benjamin Bronfman and nominated for Grammy awards, she was nominated for an Oscar for her song "O Saya" from "Slumdog Millionaire," which she wrote with A.R. Rahman.

"It was literally like day by day, you know somebody is like 'You have been nominated for a Brit (Award), and then it was like 'You are nominated for an Oscar' and it was like ... I was just really confused by it all," she said.

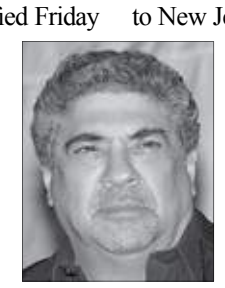
Besides dealing with all the awards hoopla, the 31-year-old is working on a new album as well as producing her new artist, Rye Rye.

M.I.A. - who says she doesn't know the sex of her baby but calls it "he" anyway - said the baby is already a fan of what it's been hearing.

"Every time I go for an ultra scan the baby is like in crazy positions with legs star-shaped and stuff. It's not like in a baby position at all," she said. "I feel like he is used to base lines and beats and receptive to that, which is cute."

NYC civil assault trial opens for actor Pastore

NEW YORK (AP)—Actor Vincent Pastore, who played a gregarious gangster on "The Sopranos," testified Friday that he wept when he realized his former fiancee, who is accusing him of assault, did not love him.



Pastore

Lisa Regina, 47, is suing Pastore in a $5.5 million civil lawsuit alleging that he hit her during a dispute in April 2005.

Pastore, 62, pleaded guilty in 2005 to attempted assault on Regina. He was sentenced to 70 hours of community service.

Pastore told a state Supreme Court jury that the couple began yelling and cursing at each other when she tried to call a former boyfriend during a drive to New Jersey.

He said Friday that as they argued, he returned to a corner near Regina's apartment and ordered her out of his car, but she refused to go.

"I was upset because I knew Lisa was with me because of her own personal goals," the actor said. "It had nothing to do with love."

"I said to her, 'That's as far as you go. You're out of my life,'" Pastore testified. "I got angry. I started to cry. Lisa said, `Stop it! People know who you are. You're embarrassing yourself.'"

He denied hitting her, as Regina claimed.

"We were both angry, both yelling at each other," he said. "I had both hands on the steering wheel. I did not hit her on the back of the head, and I did not hit her head on the gear shift," as she has said."

Regina said she suffered psychiatric harm from the incident.

Pastore's lawyer, Barry R. Strutt, told the jury he would offer treatment records to show she had emotional problems before the dispute.

Pastore played Salvatore "Big Pussy" Bonpensiero on the HBO series.

Brandeis ignites furor by considering selling art

BOSTON (AP)—Jerry Fineberg donated art and $2.5 million to the Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University, never imagining the legacy he was helping build could quickly fade. Then he learned the school was planning to sell parts of its $350 million collection to help make up for its shrinking endowment.

"I'm heartbroken. I feel betrayed," said Fineberg, a former member of the museum's board. "It was like a knife in the back."

Art associations and Brandeis faculty have railed against the decision, which would change the Rose from a public art museum to a campus art education center. On Thursday, after an emergency meeting, the museum's board issued a statement describing the move as "a breach of faith," and called on the school to revoke it. A "funeral" was planned for later Thursday, complete with a candlelit procession.

An online petition to save the museum already has thousands of names, and donations on a newly created Web page were up to about $8,000 after a few days.

The negative reaction was so swift and broad that it's given supporters hope.

"I don't see how they can ignore it," said benefactor Lois Foster, who has a wing in the museum named for her. "They didn't realize what they were starting. It's wild."

But Brandeis President Jehuda Reinharz said Thursday that the decision has been misunderstood and misreported—including by the university itself.

"Clearly, part of the problem is the way it has been communicated by us," Reinharz said.

A news release Jan. 26 from the school said it would "close the museum" and "publicly sell the art collection." But Reinharz said the while the Rose may no longer be a public museum, offering exhibits and paid admission to people who want to browse its galleries, it would remain open with a focus on serving the school's educational needs, and more exhibits by students and faculty.

He said it was absurd to think that the school would immediately sell off its entire collection, but it may sell pieces of it, which include paintings by Robert Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns, Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein.

"If and when" pieces are sold, Reinharz said, the school has up to two years of savings that give it time to wait out the depressed market and make sure any sale is the right thing to do.

The decision—approved Jan. 26 by a vote of university trustees—came after Brandeis watched its endowment drop from $712 million to $549 million since June.

By state law, the school can spend only the gains from its endowment, not the principal. Brandeis needs to consider selling some art if it wishes to remain a first-rate university with broad ambitions, a strong faculty and plentiful financial aid, Reinharz said.

"What people don't understand, is if there is no Brandeis, there is no Rose," he said. "Many people care about the Rose, many people care about art. They don't necessarily care about Brandeis. I'm the president. I've got to worry about Brandeis and the Rose."

The museum, which opened in 1961, has about 7,000 objects of modern and contemporary art. Any art sale at Brandeis must be reviewed by the state attorney general, which must ensure that sales of donated artwork respect the wishes of its donor.

Other schools have sold art to raise money to boost their endowments, including Randolph College in Lynchburg, Va., which last year sold a Rufino Tamayo painting for $7.2 million and plans to sell three more paintings.

But David Alan Robertson, president of the Association of College and University Museums and Galleries, said people fear a huge sell-off at Brandeis. That could lead other schools to view their art as financial assets to be dumped in tough times, though they should be viewed as educational necessities, he said. Robertson added that some of art museum directors won't even discuss the value of their collections for fear that administrators will be tempted to put them on the market.

Kids' jackets from Gwen Stefani's line recalled

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Love, angel, music, recall?

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is recalling kids' hooded sweat shirts from Gwen Stefani's Harajuku Lovers line.

The hoodies, which sell for about $75 at department stores, have a drawstring through the hood that can pose a strangulation hazard, the organization said. The jackets were voluntarily recalled by their Southern California-based distributor this week. No injuries have been reported.

An e-mail to Stefani's representative was not immediately returned Friday.

In this Feb. 6, 2008 file photo, Gwen Stefani arrives at "A Night to Benefit Raising Malawi and UNICEF" at United Nations headquarters.

AP

Saving Abel rocker accused of sex assault

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—The co-founder of the rock group Saving Abel and another employee of the band are facing charges after authorities say they forced a 17-year-old girl to perform a sex act following a concert in Oakland.

Thirty-three-year-old Jason Null and 21-year-old Brandon Danger were arraigned Friday on charges of forced oral copulation and forced oral copulation on a minor.

Null, a founder and lead guitarist with the group, pleaded not guilty. His attorney says the charges are "baseless" and his client will be exonerated. Danger has yet to enter a plea.

Police say the girl was lured onto the band's tour bus Tuesday night thinking she would be in a rock video. Once inside, they say she was forced to perform the sex act.

Father's authority wanes as son's popularity grows

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: My youngest son, "Trent," is 17. At a very early age it became apparent that he was a gifted athlete. Years of stellar performance in baseball and other sports have elevated him to a high social status—and it has created a rift between us.

Trent has become unmanageable. He regards my influence, direction and discipline to be nothing more than a daily hindrance. Somewhere in the sports mania, I lost control as a father.

As his only parent (and support), I wonder how many other parents are really aware of the crushing burden and peer pressure these young people experience in the quest for athletic perfection. I have and always will support my son's goals, but I see a disassociation with reality while he revels in his status. A college scholarship is a given.

Is my issue unique? Do you have any advice for me?

SPORTS DAD DOWN SOUTH

DEAR SPORTS DAD: As a single parent, watching his last child getting ready to leave the nest, your situation is far from unique. You have devoted the last 17 years to your son's welfare, and now that he is nearing adulthood you feel him slipping away.

There comes a point when parents have to start trusting that the values they have instilled in their offspring are deeply rooted enough to guide them in the right direction in the coming years. You cannot supervise and influence your son much more than you already have. So my advice is to keep the lines of communication open and to start letting go. Life will teach him lessons that will bring him back down to earth eventually.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 29, and my girlfriend, "Mia," is 25. We have been in a committed relationship for 10 months. A few weeks into our relationship I noticed that every time Mia was relaxing or riding in the car, she would suck her thumb. When she spends the night with me, she brings her baby blanket.

Mia used to be discreet about the thumb-sucking, but now she openly does it in front of my parents and our friends. She also sucks her thumb in front of her parents. From time to time they try to correct her, but when they do, she yells at them to "get off her back." When I mention it, she becomes upset and defensive and says she sees no reason to stop.

I care about Mia and don't want to hurt her, but friends and family have asked me about her habit. Is this just a bad habit or a sign of something else?

LEFT WONDERING IN SEATTLE

DEAR LEFT WONDERING: Mia's thumb-sucking may be her way of relieving stress, or it could be a symptom of an underlying emotional disorder. However, if this is the way your girlfriend talks to her parents, you should recognize that it is also a sign of what you may have to look forward to in the future—so be warned.

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend who leaves full bottles of liquor on her kitchen table for days at a time. She has an 8-year-old son who eats at the table. Is this good for the boy, or can it affect him in any way? I need to know if I should say something.

RUTH IN DAYTONA BEACH

DEAR RUTH: Unless you have reason to think that your friend's son is sampling the booze, I see no reason for you to interfere. You did say they were FULL bottles of liquor, didn't you?

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Buffalo Springfield drummer Dewey Martin dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dewey Martin, the muscular, gregarious drummer and singer who helped found the pioneering country rock band Buffalo Springfield with Neil Young and Stephen Stills, has died. He was 68.

Martin was found dead Sunday by a roommate in his Van Nuys apartment, longtime friend Lisa Lenes said. She said Martin had health problems in recent years and she believed he died of natural causes.

Martin, along with Young, Stills, singer-songwriter-guitarist Richie Furay and bassist Bruce Palmer, formed Buffalo Springfield in Los Angeles in 1966 and quickly became one of the hottest live acts on the West Coast, helped in part by the grinning, blond Martin.

Their self-titled debut album included the hit "For What It's Worth," a solemn observation of 1960s turmoil. They would later produce such classics as "Bluebird" and "Rock & Roll Woman" and Martin's husky vocals were featured at the start of another Springfield favorite, Young's "Broken Arrow."

The band broke up in 1968 amid tension between Young and Stills, but several members went on to even greater success and Buffalo Springfield's stature grew over the years, with Young often expressing regret they didn't stay together longer.

Young has had a highly successful solo career and also joined with Stills in Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young. Furay formed Poco, another early country rock band. Jim Messina, who replaced Palmer on bass, teamed with Kenny Loggins and had several hits as Loggins and Messina.

Martin continued performing under various incarnations of the band. He and Palmer toured as Buffalo Springfield Revisited in the mid-1980s, and for a time in the 1990s he played shows as Buffalo Springfield Again. (Palmer died in 2004.)

Martin also formed other groups, including Medicine Ball, which released one album.

Born Walter Milton Dwayne Midkiff in Chesterfield, Canada, he began playing drums as a teenager and settled in Nashville in his early 20s, playing for Patsy Cline, Charlie Rich and other country artists. He then moved West and joined the influential bluegrass band, the Dillards, before Young helped bring him into Buffalo Springfield.

Lenes said Martin will be buried in his native country.

'Godfather' video game suit settled

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The estate of "The Godfather" author has accepted an offer it couldn't refuse.

Mario Puzo's estate tentatively settled a $1 million lawsuit against Paramount Pictures over profits from "The Godfather: The Game," Puzo estate attorney Bert Fields said Friday. The suit was originally filed June 18 in Los Angeles Superior Court.

Paramount did not pay money owed to the Puzo estate under the terms of a settlement from a prior dispute between Puzo and Paramount in 1992, according to the suit. Puzo died in 1999. The 2006 video game loosely followed the events of the Oscar-winning 1972 film and featured the voices of original actors James Caan and Robert Duvall.

Messages left for a Paramount representative were not immediately returned Friday.

AP

The undated image from video, courtesy of publisher Electronic Arts, Inc., shows Don Vito Corleone, left, requesting a favor in "The Godfather: The Game."

NFL lifts TV blackout as Pro Bowl nears sell out

HONOLULU (AP)—The NFL has lifted the local TV blackout for Sunday's Pro Bowl, with the all-star game close to being sold out for the 30th straight year.

The league had granted two extensions before lifting the blackout for Hawaii. NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy says only a few hundred tickets remained as of Saturday.

The Pro Bowl has sold out, usually weeks in advance, every year since moving to the 50,000-seat Aloha Stadium in 1980. It will be televised on NBC.

There has been only one blackout in the history of the Pro Bowl in Hawaii. The 1982 game, which was the year of the players' strike, was blacked out locally, although it was sold out by kickoff.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

YOU'RE TAKING A SHOWER NOW? THAT MEANS YOU'RE GOING OUT TONIGHT, RIGHT?
AND YOU HAVEN'T TOLD ME TO GET CLEANED UP, SO THAT MEANS I'M STAYING HOME, RIGHT?
AND IF I'M STAYING HOME, THAT MEANS YOU'VE GOTTEN ME A BABY SITTER, RIGHT? AND THAT MEANS YOU'VE PROBABLY HIRED ROSALYN, RIGHT?!?
BRILLIANT, HOLMES.
AAHH HHHH!
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2/9

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

RESERVATION FOR TWO... NAME'S ARBUCKLE
AH, YES...WE HAVE A SPECIAL TABLE, JUST FOR YOU...
THEY KNOW ME HERE
RIIIIGHT UNDER A FIRE SPRINKLER
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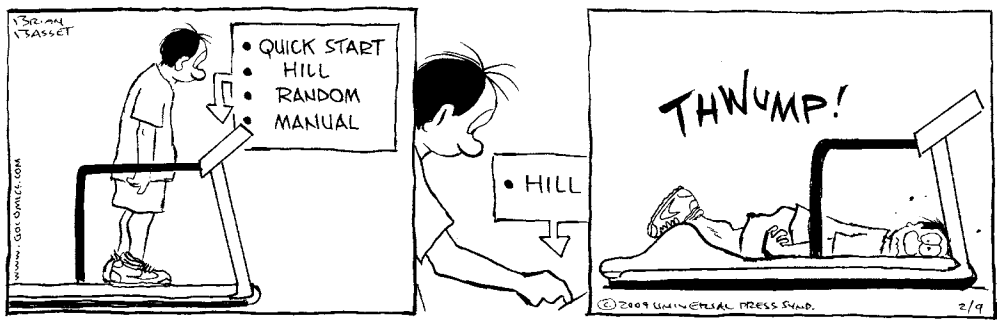
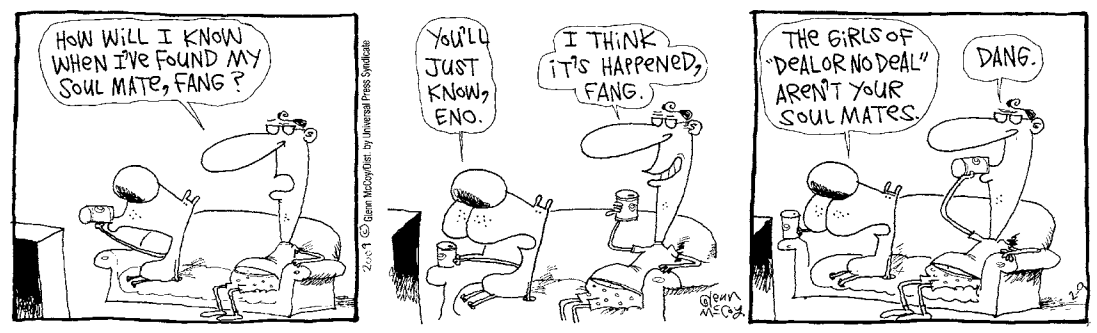
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN I'VE FOUND MY SOUL MATE, FANG?
YOU'LL JUST KNOW, ENO.
I THINK IT'S HAPPENED, FANG.
THE GIRLS OF "DEAL OR NO DEAL" AREN'T YOUR SOUL MATES.
DANG.
2009 © Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

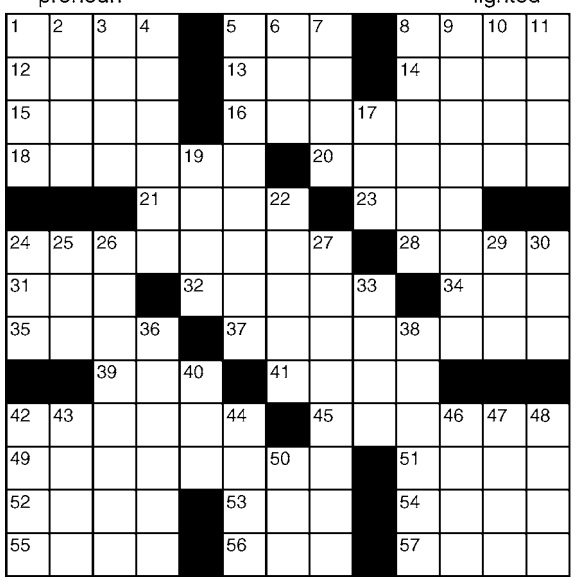
ACROSS
1 Scolded
5 Young lion
8 Skaters' venue
12 Dorothy's destination
13 Work with
14 Mideast port city ...
15 ... and a dweller therein
16 Soft fabric
18 Grayish red
20 Long, harsh speech
21 House section
23 Cauldron
24 Heavy military footwear
28 Makes a hole
31 Rowing prop
32 Missionary Junipero
34 Unit
35 Commandment pronoun
37 "Sinker"
39 "That tastes awful!"
41 Infamous lyre player
42 Damage
45 Household linens
49 Agree
51 Pelvic bones
52 Evidenced a pinprick
53 Frank McCourt book
54 — and void
55 "— Breckinridge"
56 Type squares
57 Mirth

DOWN
1 African nation
2 Circle dance
3 Mosque VIP
4 Go ashore
5 Repeated monotonously
6 Mex. neighbor
7 A-number-1
8 Rifleman's tamping device
9 Act of thinking
10 Dweeb
11 Leg joint
17 With it
19 Weeps loudly
22 Dunderhead
24 Make marginal notes
25 "That feels good"
26 Casino employee
27 Actuality
29 Wildebeest
30 Prepared
33 Taj Mahal city
36 Kampala's country
38 Optimistic
40 Toper's interruption
42 Cold War weapon (Abbr.)
43 Magical herb of myth
44 Ceremony
46 Hebrew month
47 Anger
48 Harvard's rival
50 Poorly lighted

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	L	A	W	N	S	■	E	N	I	G	M	A
T	E	C	H	I	E	■	L	E	T	R	I	P
A	G	E	O	L	D	■	B	E	S	O	T	S
D	O	D	O	■	A	W	E	D	■	A	T	E
■	■	■	P	I	T	A	■	Y	O	N	■	■
I	D	S	■	A	I	R	S	■	D	E	P	T
Q	U	E	E	N	O	F	H	E	A	R	T	S
S	E	A	T	■	N	A	I	L	■	S	A	P
■	■	W	A	S	■	R	E	M	O	■	■	■
B	F	A	■	K	A	E	L	■	G	R	A	F
R	A	T	T	A	N	■	D	E	R	A	I	L
O	C	E	A	N	S	■	E	V	E	N	L	Y
S	T	R	O	K	E	■	D	E	S	K	S	■

Saturday's answer 2-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: David Gallagher, 24; Mena Suvari, 30; Zhang Ziyi, 30; Joe Pesci, 66

Happy Birthday: Look back before you move forward. Consider the patterns of your past and correct for the future anything that didn't pan out. Make this a new beginning. To stand still and wait will lead to more of the same. Instead, set your goal and work diligently toward it. Your numbers are 4, 9, 17, 20, 25, 32, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Stand behind your beliefs and don't let anyone push you around. Uncertainty regarding work and future direction can lead to all sorts of variations that will help you build a stronger base. Don't rely on others to drum up business. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't give in to pressure or let stubbornness be your downfall. Taking on too much or being too indulgent or melodramatic can lead to challenges that will cost you time and money. Get as much done on your own as possible. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Doors are opening and the time to talk about your plans is now. Your Gemini charm will entice others to do things for you and will attract romantic interaction. A playful approach to everything you do will seal the deal personally and professionally. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't let an incident cause you to miss out on an opportunity for monetary help. Being pushy or clingy will hold you back. You need a change of scenery to rethink where you feel you should be heading. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You have plenty to contribute to any group. A partnership is apparent and can change your world professionally, personally or both. Don't back away when all you have to do is take what you want. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Change is on the horizon but you have to push a little harder to get things to fall into place. Don't let your emotions hold you back when you have so much to gain by taking a strong position and sticking to your schedule. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Spread the word regarding what you want and how you see things unfolding. You cannot let a negative influence in your life stifle your plans or make you feel unsure. Take advantage of the opportunity you have. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't give in to bullying or to someone trying to get you to do too much. Underhandedness is apparent, so do not fall for the false information being given. Ask questions and go to the source if you want a true assessment. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Love is all around you and a lot can be accomplished with the people you are closest to. A few alterations regarding your vocation are looking positive. The information or skill you acquire should lead to more personal freedom. ✪✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You may end up saddled with a problem someone brings with him or her. A contract will be riddled with problems that must be adjusted before you can agree to sign. Loss is apparent if you let your emotions rule. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Emotions are high and the ability to change your personal life is looking very positive. Speak up about your plans for the future and the interest someone has in you will grow. Now is a great time to make changes. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't let someone take over or do your work for you. If you aren't in the loop, you will lose out. You cannot trust anyone to do what's best for you. Uncertainty within a relationship must be handled carefully. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are outgoing, entertaining, intelligent and inventive. You are powerful and charismatic, with an inner light that makes others gravitate toward you.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	1		7	9			2	
2			6		3			7
		3				5		
	9		5		7		8	6
8			1		2			9
3	2		4		9		5	
		4				9		
6			9		8			5
	7			4	6		3	

Difficulty Level ★ 2/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	4	5	9	3	6	1	2	7
3	2	6	1	7	4	8	5	9
1	9	7	2	5	8	4	3	6
6	8	9	3	4	1	2	7	5
4	3	1	7	2	5	9	6	8
7	5	2	8	6	9	3	4	1
2	1	3	6	8	7	5	9	4
9	7	4	5	1	3	6	8	2
5	6	8	4	9	2	7	1	3

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 2/07

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MAYAN RUINS **Solution: 11 letters**

N	Y	M	S	E	Z	I	L	E	B	C	O	B	A	T
H	G	U	A	T	E	M	A	L	A	B	N	A	N	O
O	O	I	A	L	O	L	E	G	A	C	Y	A	C	L
C	L	N	L	X	A	N	D	N	A	L	H	R	I	T
H	O	O	D	A	A	B	E	U	A	C	E	E	E	E
O	E	N	C	U	Y	C	K	J	R	T	C	V	N	C
B	H	N	Q	I	R	A	T	E	X	I	A	O	T	U
A	C	A	N	U	X	A	M	U	L	K	L	C	T	S
L	R	C	L	X	E	E	S	A	N	A	A	S	U	A
A	A	I	A	M	A	R	M	N	R	L	P	I	L	Y
M	E	H	M	A	K	A	B	A	H	E	A	D	U	I
K	C	C	A	L	N	A	C	E	B	T	I	K	M	L
U	N	U	Z	A	E	X	T	E	N	S	I	V	E	N
I	E	C	I	K	A	P	A	L	X	P	U	J	I	L
H	F	O	R	T	R	E	S	S	C	E	B	O	I	R

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Align, Ancient, Archeology, Balamku, Becan, Belize, Chicann, Coba, Conquer, Discover, Ek Balam, Extensive, Fence, Fortress, Guatemala, Hochob, Honduras, Izamal, Jungle, Kabah, Labna, Lake, Lamanai, Land, Legacy, Merchant, Mexico, Palace, Riobec, Riviera Maya, Sayil, Stone, Tikal, Toltec, Tulum, Uaxactun, Uxmal, Xlapak, Xpujil, Yucatan

Last Saturday's Answer: Chair

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House for rent or lease in As Lito, 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom. For more info. pls. call 234-6695

• 3br, 1bath house • 2br, 2bath house. Nice view of Mangaha w/ swimming pool. Available in Capitol Hill. Call 322-5717

WHATZIT Solution:
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2003	Ford Taurus SE
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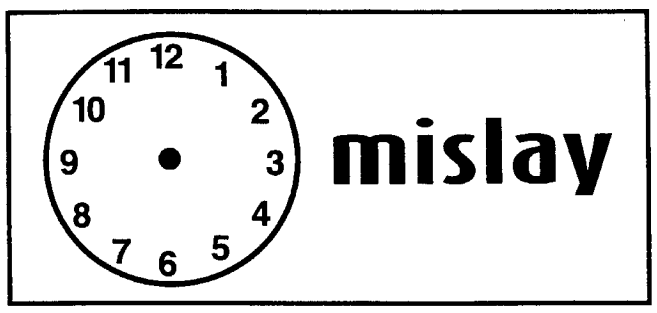
2001	Hyundai XG300
2000	Toyota Sienna CE

Call Ben @ 234-7133

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



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Find today's solution in this section

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TEL. 234-5152 • 287-2254
(WE BUY, SELL, LEASE, RENT PROPERTIES)

RENTALS

3br, 2bth house, Capital Hill	$900/mo.
4br, 2bth house, Tototville	$950/mo.
4br, 3bth house, Gualo Rai	$900/mo.
3br, 2bth house, Garapan	$950/mo.

APARTMENTS

2br, 1bth furnished, Beach Rd. CK w/ WiFi	$400/mo.
Spacious studio furnished, Gualo Rai w/ WiFi	$300/mo.
2br, 1bth furnished, CK	$350/mo.
2br, 1bth furnished, Dandan	$350/mo.
1br, 1bth furnished, Susupe	$275/mo.
2br, 1bth w/ swimming pool	$750/mo.
Back-up generator	

SALE & LEASE

4br, 2bth house, Dandan, oceanview	$210K
5br, 4bth house, Dandan, oceanview	$250K
4br, 3bth house, Dandan, newly renovated	$140K
4br, 2bth house + 2unit 2br apt. As Terlaje	$160K
3br, 1bth house, Gualo Rai, oceanview	$110K
Executive 5br, 3bth house, w/ swimming pool, Papago. Must see to appreciate	$320K
5br, 3bth house, Kobler with fence	$165K

LAND

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COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

POSITION	DIVISION/SECTION	JVA NO.	
Laboratory Technician	CUC Water Lab, Saipan	09-007	Opening Date: 02/04/09 Closing Date: 02/18/09
Meter Reader	CUC Billing Section, Saipan	09-008	Opening Date: 02/09/09 Closing Date: 02/24/09

For detailed information on the duties and responsibilities and the minimum qualification, please visit the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Room 13.

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Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening date: Feb. 9, 2009 **Closing date: Feb. 20, 2009**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy for Saipan:

One (1) CIP/FEDERAL GRANTS ACCOUNTANT

Detailed information on minimum qualifications and position description for the above position may be picked up along with the application during regular working hours at the CPA's Office (2nd Floor, Arrival Wing), the CPA Human Resources Office (2nd Floor, Departure Wing) of the Saipan International Airport, or may be donwloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp

All applications must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police recort, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 26 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selection Service System. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicant will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than ***4:30 p.m., February 20, 2009.***

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Steelers, Cards square off again in Pro Bowl

HONOLULU (AP)—Peyton Manning's first Pro Bowl experience came when he was just 3 years old.

He watched his father, Archie, from the stands of Aloha Stadium in the NFL's first all-star game in Hawaii. And little brother, Eli, wasn't even born yet.

This time, dad is the one proudly cheering on his sons in the final game in Honolulu—at least for now, as the NFL experiments with moving the game to the mainland.

"We're very proud," Archie Manning said.

The Manning brothers are on opposite sidelines and the first quarterback-playing brothers in Pro Bowl history.

Peyton, of the Indianapolis Colts, is making his ninth appearance in Hawaii in 11 seasons and will start for the AFC. Meanwhile, Eli is representing the New York Giants and making his Pro Bowl debut as a reserve for the NFC.

So who's dad pulling for?

"No. No. No. No. It doesn't matter," Archie Manning said. "I just don't want anybody to get hurt in this game. I don't care if they play for the Colts or Giants or Patriots or Titans, I don't want anybody to get hurt."

Besides the first QB siblings, Sunday's Pro Bowl also features another intriguing matchup for fans who didn't get enough from the Super Bowl: The Pittsburgh Steelers' shutdown defense versus the Arizona Cardinals' high-powered offense.

"Maybe the fans want to see an exciting game like that, but I don't know if my heart can take it anymore," Steelers linebacker James Farrior said. "This is the closest they can get, but this don't even come close to what they want to get back from us."

The world champion Steelers have three members on the AFC squad, and they're all on defense: Farrior, Troy Polamalu and James Harrison, who's still trying to catch his breath from his Super Bowl-record 100-yard interception return for a touchdown.

They'll go up against an NFC offense featuring three starters from the Cardinals: quarterback Kurt Warner and receivers Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin.

"We can maybe beat them here," said Warner, who's considering retirement. "But I don't know if it's the same consolation as beating them in the Super Bowl."

Farrior doesn't know what to expect from the Cardinals in the Pro Bowl, which is usually played at half-speed and features more handshakes than hits.

"I don't know how they're going to act, if they're going to play hard or they're going to try to enjoy this like everybody else," he said. "But those guys are a great team and they showed the heart of a champion. We just came up with the plays at the end."

AP

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees (9) throws a pass ashile Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kurt Warner looks on during an NFC football practice at the Ko Olina Resort in Kapolei, Hawaii, Friday Feb. 6, 2009, in preparation for the Pro Bowl football game this Sunday.

Boldin said he's moved on from the Super Bowl.

"This is an all-star game," he said. "We all just want to come out and have fun."

The he added, with a laugh: "It's not anything as far as revenge."

But for the first time in forever, the Cardinals aren't on the underdog team. The NFC, which also features All-Pro running back Adrian Peterson, is favored by 2 1/2 .

Polamalu didn't like the sound of a mini-rematch of the Super Bowl.

"I don't want any more of them. No way," Polamalu said.

While the world champs have only three representatives, the New York Giants have seven, including Eli Manning and John Carney, the oldest player to participate in the Pro Bowl.

Carney, who's two months away from turning 45, is joined by Giants teammate and punter Jeff Feagles, who's a month shy of turning 43.

One of the highlights of the week came when they showed up at practice wearing leather helmets.

"It looked great," Giants center Shaun O'Hara said. "It looked like their rookie year."

In a twist, Eli Manning, who led the Giants to a Super Bowl win last year, is now a backup to Warner, who he replaced in New York.

Besides possibly being Warner's final game, it may be the final time several players put on their team's helmets because of the possibility of free agency or requests to be traded. Among them is Tennessee quarterback Kerry Collins, who isn't worried about his future right now. He's too busy enjoying the scenery.

"It's amazing to look out there and see Tony Gonzalez, Reggie Wayne, Andre Johnson, Brandon Marshall," he said. "One after the other, it's just phenomenal players. It's a real treat."

For offensive players, the Pro Bowl is a dream come true. With no blitzing and limited defensive schemes, they won't have to worry being tormented by players like Ray Lewis or Joey Porter.

"It's a vanilla defense, so you know you're going to get a lot of one-on-one coverage," Collins said. "So from a quarterback's standpoint, that's all you can ask for."

In his 14th season, Collins is one of the most veteran players in the game. But he knows who's in charge of the AFC.

"Peyton's like the mayor around here," he said.

Peyton in 2012? If not politics, Manning has already shown some promise with acting. Still, Manning insists he'll stick with what he knows best: "I am a meat-head football player," he said.

Cardinals fire defensive coordinator Pendergast

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP)—The Cardinals fired defensive coordinator Clancy Pendergast on Saturday, less than a week after Arizona played Pittsburgh in the Super Bowl.

"Like every decision, it comes down to what's best for the team and what gives us the best chance to win," coach Ken Whisenhunt said in a statement released by the team.

Pendergast's departure leaves the team without both coordinators. Offensive coordinator Todd Haley was named head coach of the Kansas City Chiefs on Friday.

Pendergast was hired by Dennis Green in 2004 and stayed on when Whisenhunt took over in 2007.

"He was one of the guys retained from the previous staff and has done a good job," Whisenhunt said. "But as part of the evaluation process that's done after every season, I took a look at the last two years as a whole and felt this move was necessary to help us continue the progress we've made."

Pendergast

The 41-year-old Pendergast has been a coach in the NFL since 1995, with the then-Houston Oilers, Dallas Cowboys and Cleveland Browns.

"From a timing standpoint, we wanted to be fair to Clancy and give him a chance to seek the best possible opportunity in which to continue his career," Whisenhunt said. "In terms of filling the position, we have some people in mind both internally and externally and will begin that process immediately."

The Cardinals ranked 19th in the NFL in overall defense in the regular season, giving up 331.5 yards per game. They were 22nd in pass defense and 16th against the run.

Pendergast was known for using a variety of blitz and coverage schemes aimed at taking advantage of the Cardinals' speed.

The defense struggled in blowout losses to Philadelphia, Minnesota and New England late in the regular season, but stepped up in the playoffs, shutting down the powerful running games of Atlanta, Carolina and Philadelphia in the run to the Super Bowl.

Against the Steelers, the defense played well until the last-minutes drive that ended with the touchdown pass from Ben Roethlisberger to Santonio Holmes with 35 seconds to play that gave Pittsburgh a 27-23 victory.

Pendergast graduated from the University of Arizona in 1990, then was a graduate assistant for Mississippi State before working on the staffs at USC, Oklahoma and Alabama-Birmingham.

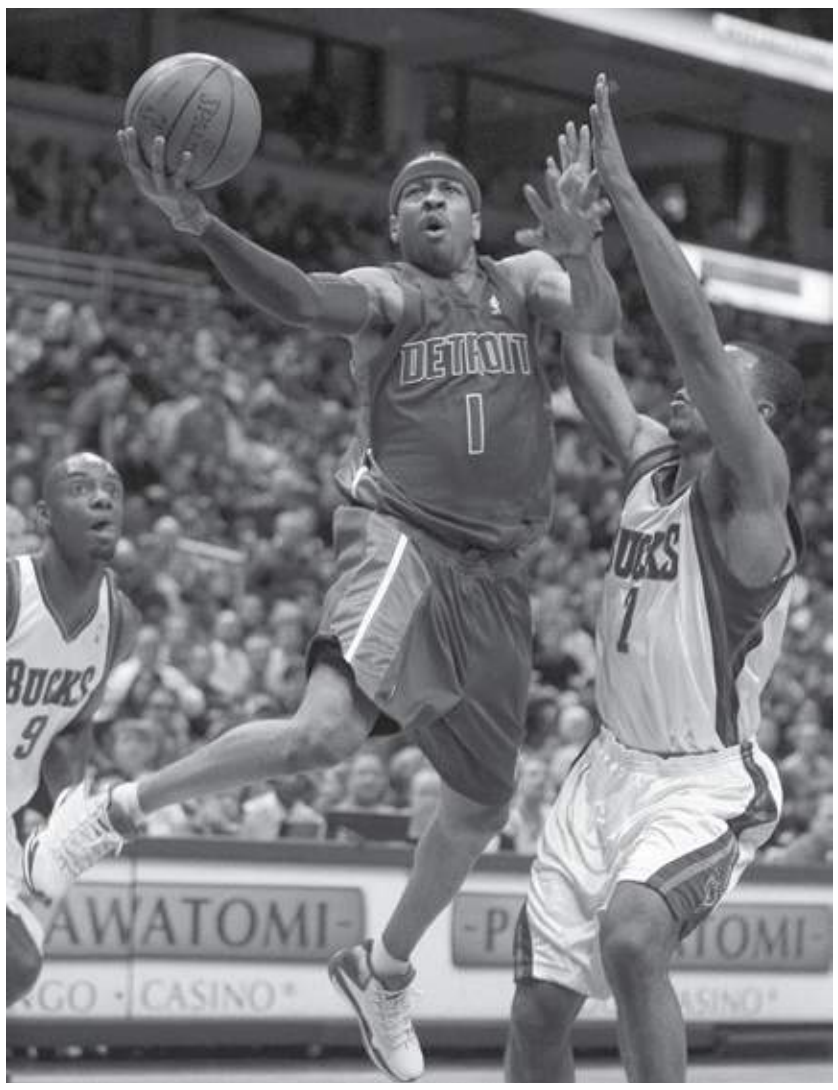
Iverson, Hamilton lift Pistons to OT win

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Allen Iverson and Richard Hamilton combined for 15 of Detroit's 17 points in overtime and the Pistons rallied for a 126-121 overtime win over the injury-plagued Milwaukee Bucks on Saturday night.

Hamilton finished with 38 points, a career high as a reserve, and Iverson added 27 points and nine assists to give the Pistons their second straight gritty win after a 3-10 stretch. Rasheed Wallace scored 27 points and Antonio McDyess had 16.

This one came down to the wire, twice.

Ramon Sessions scored 20 of his career-high 44 in the fourth quarter and overtime and put Milwaukee up for the final time when he hit two free throws that made it 121-120 with 46 seconds left.



AP

Detroit Pistons' Allen Iverson (1) goes up for a shot in front of Milwaukee Bucks' Ramon Sessions (7) during the first half of an NBA basketball game Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009, in Milwaukee.

Nets 114, Nuggets 70

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Devin Harris scored 14 of his 28 points from the free-throw line and the New Jersey Nets won their season-high fourth straight game with a stunning 114-70 victory over the frustrated Denver Nuggets on Saturday night.

Rookie Brook Lopez added 15 points and nine rebounds and Vince Carter had 12 points and eight assists in one of the most impressive performances of the season for Lawrence Frank's young team.

New Jersey built a season-high 20-point lead at the half and extended it to 37 points after third quarters in handing the Nuggets their worst loss of the season.

The loss snapped a four-game winning streak and was only the 17th of the season for Denver, which was off to its best 50-game start since joining the NBA in 1976.

76ers 94, Heat 84

In Philadelphia, Andre Miller and Marreese Speights scored 15 points, Royal Ivey ignited a second-half comeback with 11 off the bench and Philadelphia beat Miami.

Dwyane Wade had 21 points and Mario Chalmers added 18 for Miami.

Seven players scored in double figures for Philadelphia, which has won two straight since learning that Elton Brand will have season-ending shoulder surgery Monday.

Clippers 121, Hawks 97

In Atlanta, Al Thornton scored 31 points and Zach Randolph had 25 in Los Angeles' victory.

The Clippers, whose 21-point win Friday at Memphis stopped an 11-game road losing streak, improved to 7-19 away from the Staples Center. And they were barely challenged by the Eastern Conference's fourth-best home team. Los Angeles earned consecutive wins for the first time since Dec. 16, a span of 26 games.

Atlanta, which had its two-game winning streak end, played its first game this season without starting point guard Mike Bibby, who injured his foot the previous night at Charlotte and wasn't in uniform for the game.

Mavs 115, Bulls 114

In Dallas, Dirk Nowitzki scored 44 points, 14 in overtime, and the Dallas Mavericks overcame a hand injury to second-leading scorer Jason Terry for a 115-114 victory over the Chicago Bulls on Saturday night.

Nowitzki hit three straight jumpers on Dallas' first three possessions of the overtime for a 103-99 lead, and the Mavericks went on to win for the fifth time in six games.

Chicago got within 113-111 with 3.8 seconds left in overtime on Tyrus Thomas' 3-pointer.

But Nowitzki hit a pair of free throws with 2.9 seconds left to close out the Bulls, who got within one on Thomas' 3-pointer at the final buzzer.

Nowitzki fell two points short of his season high set on Dec. 13 against Oklahoma City.

Ben Gordon scored 28 points, Thomas added 23 points and 12 rebounds, and rookie Derrick Rose had 22 points and nine assists for the Bulls.

Rockets 107, T'Wolves 90

In Houston, Yao Ming scored 30 points, Rafer Alston added 22 and the Houston Rockets rallied from a 15-point deficit in the first half to beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 107-90 on Saturday night.

Tracy McGrady added 15 points and Ron Artest 14 for the Rockets, who also overcame Al Jefferson's 36 points to beat Minnesota for the sixth straight time.

Jefferson matched a career high with 22 rebounds, but couldn't keep the Timberwolves from losing for the fifth time in six games.

The Rockets took control late in the third quarter as the Timberwolves went cold from the field.

Minnesota led 69-66 before Alston sank two 3-pointers in the last 90 seconds of the third quarter to launch a 17-2 Houston run. Shane Battier added another 3 and Yao scored inside in the first minute of the fourth to put the Rockets up 83-70.

Grizzlies 78, Raptors 70

In Memphis, Tennessee, a single free throw gave O.J. Mayo enough confidence to carry the Memphis Grizzlies.

Mayo scored 12 of his 16 points in the fourth period, including nine straight, and the Grizzlies held on to defeat the Toronto Raptors 78-70 on Saturday night.

Mayo's 3-pointer with 25.7 seconds left was costly for the Raptors, who had erased a 13-point lead in the second half and lost their sixth straight. Mayo had struggled from the field through the first three quarters, missing nine of his 11 shots. He saved the best for the stretch.

LeBron loses triple-double

CLEVELAND (AP)—LeBron James never saw this steal coming.

Two days after Cleveland's superstar recorded an apparent historic triple-double in a 107-102 win against the New York Knicks, the NBA stripped James of one of his 10 rebounds after reviewing game tape. The league said the rebound with 39.3 seconds left should have been credited to Cavaliers center Ben Wallace, who tapped a loose ball that James grabbed.

Wallace finished with two rebounds but probably should have had more as several tip-outs were not scored as rebounds by the stats crew at Madison Square Garden.

A release from the league said: "All NBA games are reviewed to ensure the accuracy of the game statistics." Wallace benefited from a review in a game at Charlotte on Dec. 6, when a blocked shot originally credited to Zydrunas Ilgauskas was changed to Wallace.

James finished with 52 points, 11 assists and nine rebounds.

If his triple-double had stood, it would have been the first 50-point game in a triple-double since Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in 1975. Instead, James lost it and the Cavaliers were dealt a second slap from the league as point guard Mo Williams was not picked—for the second time—as an All-Star reserve on Thursday.

With Orlando guard Jameer Nelson out with a shoulder injury, commissioner David Stern selected Boston Celtics guard Ray Allen over Williams, a slight that drew criticism from Cleveland owner Dan Gilbert and several Cavaliers. Williams, who is averaging 17.1 points for the Central-leading Cavs, was also left off the team in a vote by Eastern Conference coaches.

"Ben Wallace was right when he called Mo originally being passed over for the All-Star game a shamockery," Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert said in a tongue-in-cheek e-mail to The Associated Press. "But not naming him as the natural and obvious replacement for the unfortunately injured Jameer Nelson is stupidiculous, idillogical and preposterageous."

Earlier this week, James called Williams' initial snub as "a total smack in the face."

The Cavaliers, who will put their 23-game home winning streak on the line Sunday against the Los Angeles Lakers, are using Williams' omission as motivation.

"He has played so well all year long and we've played great," forward Wally Szczerbiak said. "Obviously LeBron is what makes our team tick, but there are other guys out there on the floor, especially Mo, who are contributing a lot. It's a real injustice that Mo didn't make it. I don't know, maybe the coaches haven't seen him enough. I can't understand why.

"He's made big shots and made big plays for us. What are you going to do? We'll just move forward and use it as motivation."

Cleveland will be represented in Phoenix by James as well as coach Mike Brown and his staff. Brown, though, feels the Cavaliers deserved more.

"It's unfortunate that at the end of the day Boston has three guys and Orlando has three guys and we have one," he said after practice on Friday. "LeBron is a hell of a player, but I wonder in people's minds, what does that say about the rest of our team? Defensively we're No. 1. I think our points per game differential is No. 1 Obviously, our record is what it is.

"There are a lot of things stat-wise that show we're a pretty good team. For us not to be represented by multiple guys is disappointing."

Rollins is on a roll at Torrey Pines

BUICK INVITATIONAL

SAN DIEGO (AP)—It was easy for John Rollins to feel ignored, even after taking a three-shot lead in the Buick Invitational.

He played in the final group Saturday with Camilo Villegas, whose picture can be found in magazines that Rollins doesn't even read, and Charley Hoffman, who grew up in San Diego and had plenty of supporters at Torrey Pines.

Despite three-putt bogeys on three of his final seven holes, Rollins hit enough solid shots on the South Course for a 2-under 70 and had the outright 54-hole lead for the first time in his nine years on the PGA Tour.

He got up from his chair in the press center as Villegas arrived, and the Colombian playfully said, "Go on, get out of here."

"You're the star," Rollins replied.

Rollins doesn't seem to mind. He has two PGA Tour victories, but currently is camped at No. 199 in the world ranking after a dismal year in which his swing was altered after he lost 40 pounds.

"Obviously, everybody wants to see 'Spider-Man' do his thing. Yes, the cover of all the magazines, all that kind of stuff," Rollins said. "I was just out there doing my job, and I had fun with it. I think as the round got going, and I did have the lead, I think there were some fans that start to sort of cheer me on and try to keep me going.

"But it was definitely a two-man fight in the gallery's eyes."

It might be a two-man battle Sunday on the South Course, although that depends on Rollins.

After missing a 4-foot par putt on the 18th hole, Rollins was at 12-under 204. He has had a share of the 54-hole lead three times without winning, but this is the first time he has some wiggle room.

Villegas had a one-shot lead to start the round and was five behind at the turn after a double bogey on the par-5 ninth when his bunker shot flew into the gallery. But he steadied himself the rest of the way for a 2-over 74, leaving him at 207. They will be joined in the final group by Nick Watney, who shot a 71 and was five shot out of the lead.

John Rollins pumps his fist while making a birdie putt on the 17th green of the South Course at Torrey Pines during the third round of the Buick Invitational golf tournament Saturday Feb. 7, 2009 in San Diego.

AP

CHC stuns Freedom Air in softball league

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Unheralded Commonwealth Health Center posted its biggest win of the season against second-running Freedom Air, 11-10, on Wednesday night in the Budweiser Inter-Government/Business Slow-pitch Softball League at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

CHC rallied back from a 6-10 deficit after five full innings by scoring four at the top of sixth with first baseman Henry Reyes, shortstop Vince Rabauliman, catcher Fernando Camacho, and pitcher Tom Ito reaching home plate in succession to tie the count at 10-10.

Then Ito grounded out the first three Freedom Air batters at the bottom of the sixth.

Infielder John Duenas gave the game's final run on a single by Reyes at the top of the seventh.

But the tension did not just end there, as Ito again steadied himself at the mound, striking out the first batter, Al Lizama, at the bottom of seventh. He also grounded out in succession Ton Aguon and Frank Cruz for the big reversal of fortune.

With the win, CHC improved its record to 4-8, tying Public School System at 15th place.

Freedom Air absorbed its second defeat and is now tied with Commonwealth Ports Authority with similar 9-2 records.

Beach Boys 12, DLNR 11

In another exciting match-up decided by the slimmest margin after an extra inning, the Beach Boys outlasted Department of Land and Natural Resources, 12-11.

The Beach Boys recovered from 2-6 down after four full innings as they scored five runs at the bottom of fifth, including a homerun by BJ Sablan while Max Kadiasang, Ota Noboyuki, Rusty Santos and Kotaro Tsujimo also reached home plate and another run by Steve Igisomar in the sixth for an 8-6 lead.

DLNR forced the game into overtime by scoring runs from Pete Tegita and Mike Blas at the top of seventh, then pitcher Steve Igisomar grounded out all three Beach Boys' batters.

In the extra inning, DLNR put the Beach Boys under pressure as Larry Sebaklim, Chris Alepuyo and Mike Palacios had one run each for an 11-8 lead,

But the Beach Boys' first four batters went to the homeplate, including the winning run by JR Suel on a single by Stanly Aldan, with only one out into the inning.

The Beach Boys climbed from seventh to fifth tying No Zone, and Joeten Motors with identical 8-3 slates. DLNR slipped from ninth place to 10th.

Docomo 13, PIC 2

The other game last Wednesday was a lopsided contest as Docomo needed only five and a half innings to beat Pacific Islands Club, 13-2.

Docomo is now tied with Legislature with an 8-4 record in seventh place while PIC stayed at 18th with a 2-8 slate.

P&S 22, CUC 13

Earlier on Tuesday night, P&S buckled down to work in the final stretch to recover from a slow start before coming home with a 22-13 decision over Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

P&S took its sixth win in 11 outings as it rallied from a 1-6 deficit after two full innings.

Aided by a homerun by pitcher Mike Sablan, P&S came up with six runs at the top of third to take the lead, 7-6.

CUC came in front anew after six full innings, 13-9, but P&S exploded with 13 runs at the top of the seventh on the way to its sixth win in 11 games while putting CUC down to 16th place with a 3-8 mark.

Oleai track and field facility closed to public

The Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility will be closed for public use starting today until further notice.

Division of Sports and Recreation's Elias Rangamar said the facility will undergo maintenance and repair works.

"We apologized for the short notice and we are asking the public's cooperation on this request," Rangamar said. ***(PR)***

THE

From Page 28

day night.

Wells Fargo then quickly recovered in the losers' bracket, eliminating IT&E in their second meeting and the ousted defending champion was as on its way for a crack at another title after winning over Team 360 and DFS.

In their rematch, Team Becks caught Wells Fargo flatfooted early on with John Reyes, Jess Iguel, and Ben Taisacan scoring three runs for the former at the top of the first. Wells Fargo never recovered from thereon.

Ben Tagabuel and Roy Celis reached home plate at the bottom fourth, but that was the best Wells Fargo could muster into the game.

Nine teams joined this year's event with Shell Marianas completing the list.

Individual sponsors were Mark Palacios, Joey Dela Cruz, Liz Palacios, Jerry Ayuyu, Derron Flores, Larry Olomchel, Vinnie Sablan, and the CNMI Crime Stoppers Board of Directors led by president Jim Arenovski, Robert Woodruff, and James Matsumoto.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Santiago F. Tudela opened the tournament with a ceremonial pitch Friday night before the first game between Wells Fargo and PIC.

DOCOMO

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Behind by 10 at the end of the third canto, the Hoopaholics held the Runnin' Rebels scoreless in the first three and a half minutes of the payoff period.

A Ryan Sanciangco split from the foul line capped Docomo's 11-0 run in the first few minutes of the fourth and put the Hoopaholics in front, 66-65.

Runnin' Rebels coach Sonny Flores sued for time to restore order on the team and his players responded with a short 6-2 run to retake the lead, 71-68.

But Docomo retaliated with a 14-0 blast in a span of three minutes minutes, making several steals which they converted into fastbreak points to take an 11-point lead, 82-72, going into the last two minutes of the game.

Ed Diaz, who started suiting up for Docomo only in the second quarter, put the finishing touches to the Hoopaholics' come-from-behind win making seven of the team's last nine points, including a booming triple from the right baseline in the final 20 minutes of the fourth period.

The Docomo-Runnin' Rebels tiff ended in a tie in the first quarter, 22-all, and neither team still had clear control of the game at halftime with the former leading by only a point, 39-38.

But in the third period, the Runnin' Rebels started to pull away with Bobby Coldeen making two triples and Jose Tumaquip and Jesus Iguel adding one apiece.

In the fourth quarter, baskets were scarce for the Runnin Rebels, who made only one trey in the fourth and it came when the came was already decided.

Docomo challenged the Runniní Rebels' outside shots most of the time in the fourth period allowing the former to outscore the latter, 36-13.

In the second game, Quichocho Law office faced IT&E, but results of the match were unavailable at press time.

Docomo 91 – Sanciangco 26, Diaz 16, Fitial 14, Jo. Villacrusis 13, Manibusan 7, Mendez 5, Palacios 4, Lee 2.

Runnin' Rebels 70 – Coldeen 19, Iguel 13, Tumaquip 13, Teregeyo 10, Norita 7, Lisua 5, Taisacan 3.

Scoring by quarters: 22-all, 39-38, 55-65, 90-78.

DOLPHINS

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meeting with Southern, played without one of its top guns—Marvin Rabauliman, who was given a disciplinary action.

Zack Tudela, Heartim Williams, and Clayton Kenty stepped up in absence of Rabauliman and the Dolphins were never threatened in the second half.

Cruz led all scorers with 25 points, while Tudela, Williams, and Kenty combined for 26 points, more than half of Southern's total output.

Bryan Ajoste and Vince Iglecias paced the Rays with 12 markers each.

In the girls division, the Lady Dolphins were simply too much for the Lady Rays, as the former recorded another dominating win, 77-27.

The Lady Dolphins, which defeated the Lady Rays by 42 points in their first encounter, 59-17, now have a 4-0 record. The Lady Rays are at the bottom of the team standings with a dismal 0-4 slate.

Lia Rangamar and Lalaine Pagarao fired 19 markers apiece for the Lady Dolphins, who had the game in the control as early as in the first period leading by 18, 20-2.

Girls

MHS 77 – Rangamar 19, Pagarao 19, Guzman 12, Padilla 6, Tacliad 6, Benavente 4, Duhig 4, Javier 3, Palero 2.

SSHS 27 – Joseph 9, Maratita 4, Kim 4, Sikyang 3, Mendiola 3, Babauta 1, Castro 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-2, 37-6, 63-12, 77-27

Boys

MHS 67 – Cruz 25, Tudela 11, Kenty 8, Williams 7, Ada 6, Tomokane 4, Untalan 2, Soria 1.

SSHS 48 –Ajoste 12, Iglecias 12, Flores 8, Echon 4, Kiyoshi 4, Mendoza 4, Masga 2, Santos 1.

Scoring by quarters: 9-12, 27-18, 48-26, 67-48

104

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More than 60 players are competing in the youth division [boys and girls 10-and-under, 13-and-under, and 18-and-under age groups], while the rest are entered in the men's and women's open singles, men's 40-and-above, and the unique mixed-up doubles, which had young players teaming up with older ones.

The Wise Women Village Project of the Department of Public Health is this year's major supporter of the Coconut Classic.

"It's great to see these kids play against older players, especially when kids make better shots against their much older foes. Playing with and against adult players encouraged kids to elevate their level of play," Race said.

"When they are hitting good shots against adults, kids surprised not only their parents watching the game, but also themselves. They [youth players] realized what they are capable of when challenged," Race added.

The mixed-up doubles drew 50 pairs and after Saturday's matches, 27 duos had already advanced to the next round. Games continued yesterday and will resume next Monday.

The girls' 10-and-under division has 11 players with Tammy Ackerman, Julia Ishikawa, Sakura Imaya, Carol Lee, Liza Atalig, Gabrielle Race, Maliko Miyawaki, and Emily Jones making it to the next round.

The boys' 10-and-under and 13-and-under age groups have 17 players apiece.

In the girls' 13-and-under, four of the seven players vying for the title advanced to the next round. They were Ilia Corella, Alina Ishikawa, Amy Arenovski, and Neghar Rastguiy.

Eight players are entered in the boys' 18-and-under division with three moving into the next round, namely Woo Suk Chang, Nathan Nutting, and Sung Hoon Ham.

Only four are competing in the girls' 18-and-under with top seeds Thea Minor and Lila Mailman winning their first matches, beating Theecel Minor and Jodel Fernandez, respectively.

The women's singles will also be a battle among four players, namely Lydia Tan, Sakiko Eda, Kinumi Tanaguchi, and Flor Jones.

The men's singles has Jeff Race, Kirk Schuler, Father Ryan Jimenez, Nicolas Son, Boyet Minor, JR Ngeskebei, Keisuke Takagi, Tomo, So Suk Chang, Chris Nelson, and Peter Loyola, while 12 will be fighting for the men's 40-and-above singles title.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	42	10	.808	_
Philadelphia	25	24	.510	15 1/2
New Jersey	24	27	.471	17 1/2
New York	21	28	.429	19 1/2
Toronto	19	34	.358	23 1/2

Southeast Division

Orlando	37	12	.755	_
Atlanta	29	21	.580	8 1/2
Miami	26	23	.531	11
Charlotte	19	30	.388	18
Washington	10	40	.200	27 1/2

Central Division

Cleveland	39	9	.813	_
Detroit	27	21	.563	12
Milwaukee	24	29	.453	17 1/2
Chicago	22	29	.431	18 1/2
Indiana	20	31	.392	20 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	33	15	.688	_
New Orleans	29	18	.617	3 1/2
Houston	31	20	.608	3 1/2
Dallas	30	20	.600	4
Memphis	14	36	.280	20

Northwest Division

Denver	34	17	.667	_
Portland	30	19	.612	3
Utah	29	22	.569	5
Minnesota	17	32	.347	16
Oklahoma City	12	38	.240	21 1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	40	9	.816	_
Phoenix	27	21	.563	12 1/2
Golden State	16	35	.314	25
L.A. Clippers	12	39	.235	29
Sacramento	11	40	.216	30

Yesterday's Games

L.A. Clippers 121, Atlanta 97
Philadelphia 94, Miami 84
New Jersey 114, Denver 70
Memphis 78, Toronto 70
Houston 107, Minnesota 90
Dallas 115, Chicago 114, OT
Detroit 126, Milwaukee 121, OT

BUICK INVITATIONAL SCORES

SAN DIEGO (AP)–Scores Saturday from the Buick Invitational, a $5.3 million U.S. PGA Tour event on two par-72 Torrey Pines courses; 7,628-yard South Course, 6,915-yard North Course:

Third Round

John Rollins	70-64-70	204
Camilo Villegas	63-70-74	207
Nick Watney	69-69-71	209
Luke Donald	70-69-71	210
Paul Goydos	72-66-72	210
Charles Warren	74-69-68	211
Lucas Glover	69-73-69	211
Charley Hoffman	71-66-74	211
Aaron Baddeley	66-76-70	212
J.J. Henry	70-71-71	212
George McNeill	71-70-71	212
Mathew Goggin	69-70-73	212
Ben Crane	69-74-70	213
Jeff Klauk	71-73-69	213
J.B. Holmes	73-70-71	214
Bill Haas	72-70-72	214
Marc Leishman	74-68-72	214
Nathan Green	70-72-72	214
Harrison Frazar	69-70-75	214
Dean Wilson	71-73-71	215
Nicholas Thompson	75-70-70	215
Jarrod Lyle	71-74-70	215
Jason Day	69-76-70	215
Ted Purdy	74-71-70	215
Retief Goosen	71-71-73	215
Robert Garrigus	68-74-73	215
Phil Mickelson	70-72-73	215
Ben Curtis	76-66-73	215
Jason Dufner	70-70-75	215
Brandt Snedeker	75-68-73	216
Webb Simpson	72-73-71	216
Jonathan Kaye	70-73-73	216
Scott Sterling	69-72-75	216
Lee Janzen	74-72-70	216
Bubba Watson	71-68-77	216
Aron Price	72-72-73	217
Matt Jones	70-73-74	217
Jesper Parnevik	71-74-72	217
Davis Love III	66-77-74	217
Gregor Main	70-75-72	217
Ricky Barnes	69-73-75	217
Dustin Johnson	74-71-72	217
Parker McLachlin	74-71-72	217
Ryuji Imada	70-72-75	217
Hunter Mahan	74-70-74	218
Fred Couples	74-70-74	218
Kent Jones	70-71-77	218
Tom Pernice, Jr.	75-68-76	219
Padraig Harrington	71-74-74	219
Kevin Sutherland	77-68-74	219
Rod Pampling	72-74-73	219
Bart Bryant	73-69-77	219
James Nitties	79-67-73	219
Tommy Gainey	77-69-73	219
Glen Day	72-74-73	219
Pat Perez	73-73-73	219
John Senden	76-70-73	219
Y.E. Yang	77-69-73	219
Jason Gore	70-69-80	219
Charles Howell III	72-71-77	220
Tag Ridings	71-72-77	220
Rick Price	72-73-75	220
Stuart Appleby	68-74-78	220
David Mathis	75-71-74	220
Arjun Atwal	72-74-74	220
Carl Pettersson	77-69-74	220
James Driscoll	73-73-74	220
D.A. Points	70-72-79	221
Johnson Wagner	76-70-75	221
John Huston	71-71-79	221
Matt Bettencourt	74-72-75	221

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

BUDWEISER SOFTBALL STANDINGS

Men's Division

DCCA	13	0
Freedom Air	9	2
CPA	9	2
No Zone	9	3
Joeten Motor Jets	9	3
Docomo	9	4
Beach Boys	8	3
Legislature	8	5
P&S	6	5
DLNR	6	7
POI	5	6
CRM/DEQ	5	6
CHC	4	8
PSS	4	8
CUC	3	8
Law & Order	3	9
PIC	2	8
Customs	2	8
Mayor's	2	10
Hopwood	0	11

Women's Division

NMC	8	1
Finance	4	4
DCCA	4	5
CUC	3	4
CHC	1	6

The Week in Sports

Super Bowl XLIII is scene stealer

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The week for CNMI sports community started with a bang with the staging of Super Bowl XLIII.

Monday served as an unofficial holiday for the Commonwealth, as workers, students, government officials/employees, merchant marines, families, friends, and couples went to various bars to watch the historic Super Bowl XLIII.

While their eyes were glued to action unfolding between the Pittsburgh Steelers-Arizona Cardinals game, football fans' stomach were also packed from breakfast/lunch buffets offered by Shirley's Coffee Shop, PIC, Palms Resort, Hard Rock, Godfather's Bar, Bud's Bar, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, and Oleai Bar & Grill.

At the end of the greatest show in American sports that day, Steelers' fans had a celebration after a 27-23 win over the Cardinals.

Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger connected on a crucial six-yard pass to wide receiver Santonio Holmes deep in the right corner of the end zone with 35 seconds remaining in the game lifting Pittsburgh to a record-setting sixth Super Bowl win.

After the historic Super Bowl XLIII, the CNMI sport community went back to its usual schedule.

The 2008-2009 BANMI/Budweiser Basketball League proceeded with its second week action after re-opening the league, two weeks ago.

IT&E won the battle of telecommunications companies in the CNMI after outlasting Docomo, 86-80, giving the former a 2-0 start.

But IT&E's's clean slate was short lived as two days after, it lost to the Ol'Aces in double overtime, 125-128.

Other games last week had Quichocho Law Office winning its debut against the Runnin' Rebels and the CNMI Nationals notching their second win after beating the Diamond Fixers.

Action in the Navy Hill caging also continued last week with MIGS posting the biggest win in the 12-team league.

MIGS repulsed Athlete's Foot, 100-99 after rallying in the final two minutes of the game.

In basketball leagues for students, Mt. Carmel School had mixed fortunes.

The Lady Knights continued to roll in the middle school division of the 2009 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Basketball League after beating Saipan Community, 42-35.

The boys team of MCS also won last week, walloping Seventh Day Adventist, 48-11.

But in the MISO caging, the Lady Knights lost to Kagman's Lady Ayuyus, 26-58, Wednesday, at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

In other games, Saipan International School swept its first round assignments after beating Calvary Christian Academy, 41-16. The Geckos hold a 5-0 record in the boys division.

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs also remained perfect in the men's division of the 2008 Inter-Government/Business Slow-pitch Softball League.

DCCA whipped Pacific Oriental, Inc., 16-5 to improve to a 13-0 record.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mt. Carmel School's Sean Sablan celebrates after Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger connected on a crucial six-yard pass to wide receiver Santonio Holmes deep in the right corner of the end zone with 35 seconds remaining in the game lifting Pittsburgh to a record-setting sixth Super Bowl win.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kennedy Izuka shows the cell phone he won after watching Super Bowl XLIII at Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe.

The Ol'Aces Gabriel White, left, blocks the shot from IT&E's Gyles Ruluked during their game in the Budweiser caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last week.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MIGS' Bonbon Cadagat, right, dribbles past Athlete's Foot Elmer Esdrelon during their game in the Navy Hill caging at the Garapan Basketball Court.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mt. Carmel's Noelle Calvo goes up for a shot against two Kagman defenders during their game in the MISO caging last week at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A SIS player is sandwiched by two Calvary players in this rebound play.
NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ, JR.

DCCA's Mel Sakisat delivers a pitch.
NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ, JR.

A GCA Eagles player dribbles past a Seventh Day Adventist defender during their game in the private school caging last week at the San Antonio Basketball Court.
NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ, JR

Steelers, Cards square off again in Pro Bowl

He watched his father, Archie, from the stands of Aloha Stadium in the NFL's first all-star game in Hawaii. And little brother, Eli, wasn't even born yet.

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Super Bowl XLIII is scene stealer

Monday served as an unofficial holiday for the Commonwealth, as workers, students, government officials/employees, merchant marines, families, friends, and couples went to various bars to watch the historic Super Bowl XLIII.

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The Set rules Crime Stoppers softball tilt

Winning pitcher John Terlaje hurls the ball in the seventh inning for newly crowned champion The Set/Natara, which won in the finals over Team Becks/No Zone, 6-3, in the 7th Annual Crime Stoppers Softball Tournament yesterday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ, JR.

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Team The Set/Natara was crowned new champion in the 7th Annual Crime Stoppers Softball Tournament after outsmarting Team Becks/No Zone in the finals, 6-3, yesterday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

It was a repeat of The Set's win earlier in the day over the same team when they met for the first time in the semifinals of the winners' bracket, 8-7.

The Set, sponsored by Mark and Rose Pangelinan and Bank of Saipan, was undefeated in the three-day event. The eventual champion topped Delta Management on Friday night, 12-7, and Team 360 on Saturday, 8-5, to take its first title in its first time to join the tournament.

After losing in the winners' bracket semis, Team Becks came back with a big win against three-time defending champion Wells Fargo, 3-2, to advance to the finals.

The win was Team Becks' second victory against Wells Fargo.

Wells Fargo opened its title defense bid with a victory over Pacific Islands Club Friday night, 16-4, before Team Becks pulled off a 6-4 win over the dethroned champion Satur-

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Docomo breaks into win column

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Docomo notched its first win in the 2008-2009 BANMI/Budweiser Basketball League after rallying past the Runnin' Rebels, 90-78, Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Docomo Hoopaholics worked their way back from a 55-65 deficit at the start of the fourth quarter en route to a 12-point win, their first after a 0-2 start.

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Docomo's Ryan Sanciangco, right, drives to the baseline against the Runnin' Rebels' Bobby Coldeen during their game in the Budweiser caging Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Dolphins top Manta Rays to keep perfect record

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Marianas High School kept its immaculate record in both the boys and girls varsity divisions of the 2008-2009 MISO Basketball League after sweeping Saipan Southern High School Friday at the MHS Gymnasium.

The Dolphins recovered from a sluggish start to cruise to a 67-48 over the Manta Rays.

The MHS cagers now sport a 3-0 record. The Rays ended the regular season winless in four games, a biggest setback for the team that defeated the Dolphins in last season's finals.

Southern, which had only a few players from last year's champion team playing this season, limited MHS to only nine points in the first quarter to take the lead, 12-9.

But after a lethargic start, Jericho Cruz sparked a Dolphins' 18-6 attack in the second period to grab the driver's seat at halftime, 27-18.

MHS, which won by only eight points, 63-55, in its first

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104 join Coconut Classic tennis tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The American Memorial Park tennis courts had a full house Saturday, as the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association kicked off the 2009 Coconut Classic Tennis tournament and attracted 104 participants.

The Coconut Classic is NMITA' first tournament in 2009 and CNMI coach and tournament director Jeff Race was ecstatic with the turnout.

"What a great way to start the year by having a huge number of youth participants and adult players," Race said.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Adele Hudkins goes for a double-fisted backhand return during her and teammate Richard Brostrom's game against the duo of Brian Hom and Tom Lim in the mixed-up doubles division of the 2009 Coconut Classic Tennis Tournament Saturday at the AMP tennis courts.